

**Granite City Growing SEA Environmental Report**

**PART 1**

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

Or SEA Gateway  
Scottish Executive  
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**PART 2**

An SEA Environmental Report is attached for the plan entitled

Granite City Growing – a food growing strategy for Aberdeen

The Responsible Authority is:

Aberdeen City Council (ACC) leading on behalf of City stakeholders

**PART 3**

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**Date**

3/9/2019

## **Non-Technical Summary**

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This Non-Technical Summary introduces Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and summarises the contents of the full technical report.

### **Purpose of this Environmental Report and Key Stages**

We (Aberdeen City Council) have written this Environmental Report (“the report”) for Granite City Growing – a food growing strategy for Aberdeen under the Environmental Assessment [Scotland] Act 2005. The process taken to write this report is called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The reason for undertaking SEA is to address all the effects that Granite City Growing will have on the environment. The overall aim of the process is to protect the environment. Throughout this SEA process, we have taken the views of others (including the public and key agencies) into account before coming to final decisions.

SEA should be applied to plans, programmes and strategies (‘PPS’) produced by public bodies, including local authorities. The key stages of SEA are pre-screening, screening, scoping, environmental report and post-adoption statement. An explanation of these stages can be found below:

#### **1. Pre-screening**

Pre-screening of a PPS is done to show that a plan is not likely to have any effect on the environment, or if it has any effects at all, they will be minimal. After pre-screening, a PPS will not be subject to any further SEA. This stage does not apply to Granite City Growing.

#### **2. Screening**

A PPS is screened to determine whether we should be doing an SEA for it. When a plan is likely to have significant (i.e. very bad, damaging, large or long-lasting) effects on the environment, we will do an SEA. The results of the screening process showed that Granite City Growing was likely to have significant environmental effects and so we have carried out full SEA.

#### **3. Scoping**

At the scoping stage, we produced a report setting out how much information should be in the actual Environmental Report, how we plan to assess the effects of the different aspects of Granite City Growing, and how long we will consult with others on the report. We then consulted with the Statutory Consultees on the contents of the Scoping Report, and their recommendations helped us to improve our approach.

#### **4. Environmental Report**

In the Environmental Report, we assess the effects of Granite City Growing on the environment and explain how we could address those effects, through a process called mitigation. We also describe how we will monitor any significant effects of the plan on the environment.

#### **5. Post-adoption Statement**

Once we have taken into account and addressed concerns raised by those we have consulted, we will adopt Granite City Growing and tell everyone about the difference the SEA process and the views of those we have consulted have made to the final document. We do this through a Post-adoption Statement.

Section 3 of the main report shows the SEA activities we have carried out to date. It also includes a summary of the comments we have received from other people, and how we have made changes to the report to take these into account.

### **Description of the Proposed Plan**

Granite City Growing is a key document that sets a long-term framework for collaborative action, to strengthen capacity to increase and support opportunities for food-growing in Aberdeen. Section 4 of the main report contains a detailed description of the content of Granite City Growing, and the different options and alternatives we considered while we were writing it.

### **Context of the Proposed Plan**

To guide and help us deliver what we plan to do in Granite City Growing we have made use of high-level documents, statements and pieces of legislation to influence how we have written this strategy, which affects Aberdeen, the North East, Scotland and Europe. These documents cover:

- Climate change and the water environment, as well as flood management..
- Ways to adapt to climate change, and energy security.
- Sustainable development and green space / open space.
- Economic development including building industries, shops and town centres.
- Transportation and infrastructure, as well as how we travel.
- Landscape, soil, how we conserve nature.
- Access and core paths.
- Trees and woodland.
- Plant and animal life on the land and in the water and how we protect them.
- Historic and important buildings.
- How we manage waste.
- Population, health of people, physical exercise and noise.
- How we plan and use the land.
- Food growing and food security.
- Pollution and air quality.
- Housing building and how we design places.
- Community Empowerment.
- Allotments.

Section 5 of the main report contains a list of all the relevant PPS which have a bearing on Granite City Growing. Appendix 9.1 contains a more detailed description of these.

## **State of the Environment in Aberdeen**

We have collected information on the key characteristics of the environment in Aberdeen and have gathered statistics which give an up-to-date picture of the state of the environment in Aberdeen.

Section 5 of the main report describes the state of the environment in Aberdeen in more detail. Appendix 9.2-9.13 contains environmental statistics, targets and trends for Aberdeen on a wide range of topics. The appendix also contains map-based information. The future challenges we must deal with in Aberdeen are illustrated in the bullets below.

- There is a significant flood risk for the city and potentially vulnerable areas will affect individuals, communities, businesses and organisations in the city.
- Impacts for the coastline through tidal surge, wave inundation and the threat of erosion for soft coastal areas.
- We have serious air quality problems in a number of areas in Aberdeen. Many air pollutants also contribute to a changing climate.
- Climate change will affect how much water we will have, the quality of water. The River Dee is an Special Area of Conservation (SAC) providing most of the water supply for the city. Potential low flows in water courses, will be a risk to freshwater ecosystems.
- Climate change will affect the stability and function of our soils.
- Climate change will present risks to public health and wellbeing, including an increase in disease and pests. Impacts are likely to be highest on those considered to be most vulnerable
- Aberdeen is rich in cultural heritage and landscape; these assets and sites could be vulnerable to damage and degradation from climate change
- How we deal with waste affects our soils, water and climate.
- Impacts from climate change for biodiversity including; migration and loss of species, damage and degradation of habitats, pests and disease and habitat fragmentation.
- Potential loss of greenspace and wildlife corridors to developments; and loss of habitats from flooding and erosion.
- Potential growth in population and changing city demographics.
- An increase in heavy rainfall and flooding may cause damage to buildings and erosion of infrastructure
- Drought could also become more likely leaving soil vulnerable to erosion and putting increased pressure on available resources.

## Assessment of Environment Effects

The main part of SEA is assessing the effect of Granite City Growing on the environment. A summary of our findings can be found in the table below.

SEA Issue	Impact of Granite City Growing
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	Projects to increase food-growing opportunities under Granite City Growing are considered to generally have a positive effect on habitats and species in Aberdeen. Through site design and advice Granite City Growing will seek to mitigate any negative effects while promoting actions to enhance biodiversity, reduce fragmentation and impacts for wildlife and habitats.
<b>Air</b>	This SEA issue was scoped out of the Environmental Report.
<b>Climatic factors</b>	This SEA issue was scoped out of the Environmental Report.
<b>Water</b>	The implementation of projects under Granite City Growing may have positive and negative effects on the water environment. Risks will be reduced by encouraging the best practice of rainwater harvesting and using organic techniques.
<b>Soil</b>	It has been assessed that the effects of Granite City Growing on the soil environment may have positive and negative effects. By communicating and supporting best practice Granite City Growing should improve soil health and stability over time.
<b>Landscape</b>	It has been assessed that the effects of Granite City Growing on landscape may have both positive and negative effects. The implementation of projects under Granite City Growing may result in a small change to the landscape.
<b>Population and Health</b>	The effects of Granite City Growing on the population and human health have been assessed as positive overall. It will increase the opportunity for a physical activity proven to increase mental wellbeing and it will also improve access to fresh fruit and vegetables.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	This SEA issue was scoped out of the Environmental Report.
<b>Material Assets</b>	Granite City Growing would have a positive impact on material assets through the efficient use of resources and through site design to protect and enhance existing assets.

**Section 6** of the main report describes in more detail how we approached the assessment of environmental effects. **Tables 6.2 and 6.3** contain detailed assessments for each aspect of the plan.

## Mitigation Measures

Where an aspect of Granite City Growing will have significant negative effects on the environment, we have identified 'mitigation measures' to compensate for this. A summary of the broad measures which will be taken to help mitigate the negative (or enhance the positive) effects of the preferred options can be found in the table below:

SEA Issue	Mitigation Measures
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	We will work with statutory bodies and partners to protect designated areas, reduce fragmentation and protect and enhance biodiversity.
<b>Air</b>	This SEA issue was scoped out of the Environmental Report.
<b>Climatic factors</b>	This SEA issue was scoped out of the Environmental Report.
<b>Water</b>	We will work with statutory bodies and partners to ensure that projects under Granite City Growing make efficient use of water and protect the water environment.
<b>Soil</b>	We will work with partners to protect soil health and stability.
<b>Landscape</b>	We will look to protect and enhance our most valued landscapes, their character and setting. When we develop projects, we will make sure they do not have significant visual impact.
<b>Population and Health</b>	We will put measures in place to enhance the positive effects of Granite City Growing and look to minimise risks to people in Aberdeen and their health.
<b>Cultural Heritage and Material Assets</b>	This SEA issue was scoped out of the Environmental Report..
<b>Material Assets</b>	We will put measures in place to enhance the positive effects of Granite City Growing.

**Section 7** of the main report contains a detailed description of the significant negative effects of each aspect of the plan and what mitigation measures we have identified to address them.

### Monitoring

We will monitor the significant negative and positive effects of Granite City Growing through monitoring. We have stated what actions we must carry out, who must carry out each of the actions and when we must carry them out. **Section 8** of the main report contains a detailed description of all the things we will monitor, how we will do this and how often.

### How to Comment on the Report

If you would like to express your views on the contents of this Environmental Report, please send written comments to the following address:

#### By e-mail

[sgustar@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:sgustar@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

#### By post:

Sandy Gustar  
Sustainable Development Officer  
Strategic Place Planning  
Aberdeen City Council  
Business Hub 4  
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## 1 Introduction

The purpose of this Environmental Report is to address all the effects that Granite City Growing will have on the environment. Granite City Growing is a multi-organisation food growing strategy. This Environmental Report has been prepared under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

The SEA assesses the impact of each of the different aspects of Granite City Growing, including the overall vision, target, objectives and outcomes. It also assesses the reasonable alternative we considered during the preparation of Granite City Growing. Therefore, the SEA has helped us to make decisions about and improve the content of Granite City Growing.

- **Section 2** tabulates the key facts about Granite City Growing.
- **Section 3** describes the SEA process to date.
- **Section 4** offers a description of the content of Granite City Growing, including different alternative options that have been considered.
- **Section 5** outlines the context for Granite City Growing, including other relevant PPS and environmental protection objectives, baseline data describing the current state of the environment and environmental problems in Aberdeen.
- **Section 6** describes the scope and level of assessment and explains the assessment framework that was used. It also contains and assessment of the cumulative effects of Granite City Growing on the environment.
- **Section 7** provides and overview of the mitigation measures proposed to address the negative effects of Granite City Growing on the environment.
- **Section 8** sets out how we intend to monitor these effects.

The description of relevant PPS and baseline information including statistics, targets, trends and map-based information can be found in Appendix 9.1-9.13.

## 2 Key Facts

Table 2.1: Key Facts relating to **Granite City Growing**

Name of Responsible Authority	Aberdeen City Council (ACC) leading on behalf of city stakeholders.
Title of the PPS	Granite City Growing
What Prompted the PPS	The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Subject	Food growing
Period Covered by the PPS	Granite City Growing sets a direction to 2025.
Frequency of Updates	Granite City Growing will be reviewed every 5 years in accordance with the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Area covered by the PPS	Aberdeen City
Purpose and/or objectives of the PPS	Granite City Growing is a key document that sets a long-term framework for collaborative action, to increase and support opportunities for food-growing in Aberdeen.
Contact Point	Sandy Gustar Strategic Place Planning Aberdeen City Council Business Hub 4 Ground Floor North Marischal College Aberdeen, AB10 1AB

### 3. SEA activities to date

Table 3.1 summarises the SEA activities that have taken place and are expected to take place in relation to the Environmental Report for Granite City Growing.

**Table 3.1: SEA activities to date**

<b>SEA Action/Activity</b>	<b>When carried out</b>	<b>Notes (e.g. comment on data availability, particular issues or any advice from the Consultation Authorities that has now been taken into account)</b>
Screening	April-May 2018	
Receipt of opinion of statutory consultation authorities	4 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	SNH, SEPA and Historic Environment Scotland all agreed that the PPS is likely to have significant effects.
Screening Determination	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	
Scoping Report	May-June 2018	
Receipt of opinion of statutory consultation authorities	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2018	See table 3.2 for feedback on the scoping report from the statutory consultees
Preparation of the Environmental Report taking into account consultees comments on Scoping report	August-January 2019	
Statutory consultation on the Environmental Report	Aberdeen City Council's City Growth and Resources Committee 26 September 2019	
Modification of Granite City Growing and Environmental Report taking into account internal consultations	Undertaken after public consultation in December 2019	
Adoption of Granite City Growing and Preparing SEA Statement	Aberdeen City Council's City Growth and Resources Committee 6 February 2020	



Table 3.2 is a summary of comments received from key agencies through the Scoping Report and how we have taken these comments on board during the drafting of this Environmental Report.

**Table 3.2: Comments from Key Agencies on Scoping Report**

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
<b>Historic Environment Scotland (HES)</b>	<p><b>Scope and level of detail</b> We understand that the Granite City Growing Strategy (the Strategy) will set out objectives, actions and projects to promote and support food growing opportunities in Aberdeen. It is not clear from the information provided how far the Strategy in itself will set a framework for the location of food growing sites.</p>	Acknowledged.	<p>An action from the strategy will be to determine how sites are identified and communities supported to oversee development of food growing. The Open Space Audit and revised Local Development Plan will provide information on available land for potential food growing.</p>
	<p><b>Scope and level of detail</b> You have scoped cultural heritage out on the basis that the Strategy would have a positive effect through measures to protect architectural and archaeological heritage. The indicative objectives, actions and projects set out in Table 3.2 do not include specific measures relating to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment, so we have assumed these measures to be existing policies out with the scope of the strategy.</p>	Acknowledged.	<p>Yes, it is correct that architectural and archaeological heritage will be protected and enhanced through existing policies out with the scope of Granite City Growing.</p>
	<p><b>Scope and level of detail</b> The historic environment can be affected (both positively and negatively) by change of use of land, development and infrastructure provision. We are broadly content that the historic environment is scoped out of the assessment as we consider effects likely to be minor, and we note that the Landscape and Material Assets objectives incorporate historic environment considerations. We</p>	Acknowledged.	<p>Yes, it is agreed that these objectives are kept under review and if significant effects are identified, reconsidered.</p>

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	recommend that these objectives are kept under review and if significant effects are identified, you may wish to consider scoping the historic environment back into the assessment.		
<b>Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)</b>	<b>Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)</b> Some of the PPS included have themselves been subject to SEA. Where this is the case you may find it useful to prepare a summary of the key SEA findings that may be relevant. This may assist you with data sources and environmental baseline information and also ensure the current SEA picks up environmental issues or mitigation actions which may have been identified elsewhere.	Agreed.	To check SEA Gateway about whether this is possible.
	<b>Baseline Information</b> SEPA holds significant amounts of environmental data which may be of interest to you in preparing the environmental baseline, identifying environmental problems, and summarising the likely changes to the environment in the absence of the PPS, all of which are required for the assessment. Many of these data are now readily available on SEPA's website. Additional local information may also be available from our Access to Information unit at our Corporate Office (Telephone 01786 457700 or email <a href="mailto:dataenquiries@sepa.org.uk">dataenquiries@sepa.org.uk</a> ). Other sources of data for issues that fall within SEPA's remit are referenced in our SEA topic guidance notes for air, soil, water, material assets and human health.	Noted.	Data is reviewed periodically using any available data sources.
	<b>Environmental problems</b> We consider that the environmental problems	Welcomed and noted.	None.

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	<p>described generally highlight the main issues of relevance for the SEA topics within our remit.</p> <p><b>Alternatives</b>  We are satisfied with the alternatives outlined. These should be assessed as part of the SEA process and the findings of the assessment should inform the choice of the preferred option. This should be documented in the Environmental Report.</p>	<p>Welcomed and noted.</p>	<p>Included within the environmental report.</p>
	<p><b>Scoping in / out of environmental topics</b>  We agree that the environmental topics soil and water should be scoped into the assessment. From the information available in the scoping report and from the consultation documents, we agree that the effects on air could be scoped out of the assessment as we do not foresee these to be significant.</p>	<p>Welcomed and noted.</p>	<p>None.</p>
	<p><b>Methodology for assessing environmental effects</b>  Including a commentary section within the matrices in order to state, where necessary, the reasons for the effects cited and the score given helps to fully explain the rationale behind the assessment results. This allows the Responsible Authority to be transparent and also allows the reader to understand the rationale behind the scores given.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	<p>Commentary section is included and will be completed within the Environmental Report.</p>
	<p><b>Methodology for assessing environmental effects</b>  Where it is expected that other plans, programmes or strategies are better placed to undertake more detailed assessment of environmental effects this should be clearly set out in the Environmental Report.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	<p><b>Methodology for assessing environmental effects</b>  We would expect all aspects of the PPS which could have significant effects to be assessed.</p>	Noted.	It is an expectation that the Environmental Report would assess any significant effects.
	<p><b>Methodology for assessing environmental effects</b>  We support the use of SEA objectives as assessment tools as they allow a systematic, rigorous and consistent framework with which to assess environmental effects.</p>	Noted.	None.
	<p><b>Methodology for assessing environmental effects</b>  When it comes to setting out the results of the assessment in the Environmental Report please provide enough information to clearly justify the reasons for each of the assessments presented. It would also be helpful to set out assumptions that are made during the assessment and difficulties and limitations encountered.</p>	Noted.	Considered during assessment process and noted within the commentary section.
	<p><b>Design of the Assessment Matrices</b>  We are content with the proposed detailed assessment matrix and particularly welcome the commentary box to fully explain the rationale behind the assessment results. We also welcome the link between effects and mitigation / enhancement measures in the proposed assessment framework and the consideration of mitigation of impacts.</p>	Noted.	None.
	<p><b>Comments on wording of proposed SEA objectives</b>  Following additions:  Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna:</p>	Noted.	Amendment made.

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	<p>To maintain and enhance existing green and blue networks and improve connectivity/function.</p> <p>Soil: To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.</p> <p>Water: To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained. To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts. To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity.</p> <p>Human Health To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.</p> <p>Material Assets To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>		
	<p><b>Mitigation and enhancement</b> We encourage you to use the assessment as a way to improve the environmental performance of individual aspects of the final option; hence we support proposals for enhancement of positive effects as well as mitigation of negative effects. It is useful to show the link between potential effects and proposed mitigation / enhancement measures in the assessment framework. We would encourage you to be very clear in the Environmental Report about mitigation measures which are proposed as a result of the assessment. These should follow the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate). One of the most important ways to mitigate</p>	Noted.	Considered in assessment.

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	<p>significant environmental effects identified through the assessment is to make changes to the plan itself so that significant effects are avoided. The Environmental Report should therefore identify any changes made to the plan as a result of the SEA. Where the mitigation proposed does not relate to modification to the plan itself then it would be extremely helpful to set out the proposed mitigation measures in a way that clearly identifies: (1) the measures required, (2) when they would be required and (3) who will be required to implement them.</p>		
	<p><b>Monitoring</b> Although not specifically required at this stage, monitoring is a requirement of the Act and early consideration should be given to a monitoring approach particularly in the choice of indicators. It would be helpful if the Environmental Report included a description of the measures envisaged to monitor the significant environmental effects of the plan.</p>	Noted.	Please see completed monitoring plan. Further Granite City Growing would be reviewed as part of the 5 year performance reporting under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
	<p><b>Outcomes of the Scoping exercise</b> We would find it helpful if the Environmental Report included a summary of the scoping outcomes and how comments from the Consultation Authorities were taken into account. We welcome proposals for the inclusion of a summary of how the comments provided by the Consultation Authorities at the Scoping stage have been taken into account in the preparation of the Environmental Report.</p>	Noted.	See remainder of this table for other comments and actions taken.
<p><b>Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)</b></p>	<p><b>Objectives, Actions and Projects</b> It may be more appropriate to call this</p>	Noted.	These were working titles. Amendment will be considered when

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	'Communication & Education' rather than 'Political & Strategic'.		drafting the content of Granite City Growing.
	<b>Objectives, Actions and Projects</b> Support on the food growing journey will be needed as it continues, not just at the start.	Noted.	Agree. Consideration will be given to providing support on an ongoing basis though this will be determined by available resource and budget.
	<b>Objectives, Actions and Projects</b> Although spaces with potential for food growing are being identified as part of the open-space audit being carried out this summer, this is a coarse assessment. The results will need to be refined to determine if areas identified in the open space audit are appropriate for food growing.	Noted.	An action from the strategy will be to determine how sites are identified and communities supported to oversee development. The Open Space Audit and revised Local Development Plan will provide information on available land for potential food growing.
	<b>Objectives, Actions and Projects</b> Objective 2 – there is some overlap with objective 1. Both include elements of promoting food growing and raising awareness of the health benefits. It may be possible to amalgamate the two objectives.	Noted.	Agreed, however these objectives follow the template in the guidance from Scottish Government.
	<b>Objectives, Actions and Projects</b> Objective 3 – we welcome this objective and the subsequent actions to encourage biodiversity, climate resilience and reduce carbon mileage.	Noted.	None.
	<b>Objectives, Actions and Projects</b> The proposal to consider management for bees should be extended to other pollinators. Management to increase biodiversity should promote the use of pollinator-friendly pest control measures. Management for climate resilience should include measures to conserve water.	Noted.	Bees were included based upon Scottish Government guidance which didn't explicitly mention other pollinators. Granite City Growing would look to encourage any pollinator species.

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	<p><b>Analysis of relevant PPS</b> A further key point is to promote Aberdeen's green space network.</p>	Noted.	Amendment made.
	<p><b>Likely evolution of the environment without Granite City Growing</b> Biodiversity, flora and fauna – the possible change will depend on the areas where food growing is promoted. As well as the positive impacts identified in the scoping report, there is a possibility of negative impacts if food growing is promoted in an area important for biodiversity. It could result in loss of habitat and disturbance of wildlife. Even in an area of lesser value for biodiversity, it is possible that food growing, if not carefully managed, could lead to a reduction in its value for nature. For instance, from increased use of peat based compost, herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers. Food growing could also require increased water use for irrigation. It may be possible to refer to existing guidance or develop your own, on good management practices to reduce these risks.</p>	Noted.	Granite City Growing would look to provide advice to inform decision making over site selection and management.
	<p><b>Likely evolution of the environment without Granite City Growing</b> Climatic factors – inappropriate site selection or management of land for food production could potentially exacerbate climatic factors. For instance, through direct loss of carbon soils and trees, and increased use of water and peat based products. This could be addressed by developing appropriate</p>	Noted.	Granite City Growing would look to provide advice to inform decision making over site selection and management.



Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	site selection criteria.		
	<p><b>Likely evolution of the environment without Granite City Growing</b>  Water – depending on current land use, a change to food growing could increase requirement for water from the River Dee SAC. This could be addressed, at least in part, by building rainwater harvesting which would reduce demand. Including SUDS into new growing areas could assist with sustainable drainage. There may be potential for the community growing spaces and allotments to play a flood attenuation function and provide climate change adaptation measures.</p>	Noted.	Granite City Growing would look to support sustainable water management.
	<p><b>Likely evolution of the environment without Granite City Growing</b>  Population and Human health – there is a possible adverse impact to human health if land that is used by the public as open space and for access is no longer available for the same uses as a consequence of food growing. This would need to be balanced with the health benefits of fresh food and exercise gained from food growing.</p>	Noted.	Any projects undertaken under the Granite City Growing would seek to undertake extensive stakeholder engagement to ensure no adverse impact on population and human health. Further, projects that require planning permission will consider the balance of recreational opportunities.
	<p><b>Environmental Problems</b>  Table 4.6, identifies the potential problem of a reduction in summer rainfall. The implications of this for Granite City Growing should be considered in the environmental report. Under Human Health, consideration should be given to loss (or restricted</p>	Noted.	Considered in assessment. Also see comment above.

Body/Person making comment	Comment	Response	Resulting change
	use) of land that is used for healthy lifestyles, if it is altered to use for food growing.		
	<p><b>Scoping of SEA issues</b> We agree that the environmental topics of Biodiversity, flora and fauna, and Landscape should be scoped into the assessment.</p>	Noted.	None.
	<p><b>Scoping of SEA issues</b> Climatic factors has been scoped out as an SEA topic. This topic is inter-related to others such as Water and Biodiversity (through increased pressure on the River Dee SAC from reduced rainfall and low flows). Therefore these aspects of climatic factors should still be assessed under the topics of Water and Biodiversity.</p>	Noted.	Agree, these will be considered under those topic headings.
	<p><b>Monitoring</b> We welcome the proposal to include a description of monitoring measures within the Environmental Report.</p>	Noted.	Please see completed monitoring plan. Further Granite City Growing would be reviewed as part of the 5 year performance reporting under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

## 4 Description of PPS Content

### 4.1 Options of Granite City Growing

In developing Granite City Growing, the following three options are reasonable. These are shown in table 4.1 below.

**Table 4.1- Options Considered**

Option	Description of Option
<b>Option 1 – Do Nothing</b>	Under this option city stakeholders carry on with business as usual and do not take steps to increase or support food-growing opportunities.
<b>Option 2 – Do minimum</b>	Under this option city stakeholders are responsible for developing individual plans and strategies to increase or support food-growing opportunities which could result in an ad hoc, inconsistent approach to food-growing.
<b>Option 3 – Do optimum (Preferred)</b>	Under this option city stakeholders work in partnership across all sectors to develop a food-growing strategy that seeks to increase and support food-growing opportunities for Aberdeen, sets shared objectives and highlights areas for action and collaboration across the whole city.

### 4.2 Granite City Growing goals, objectives and actions

At this stage, the content of the PPS is still being established. The following objectives and actions show the progress made so far. They should therefore be considered as tentative and subject to change and or modification. However, it should be noted then when identifying objectives, aims and outcomes for inclusion in Granite City Growing, we have reviewed multiple stakeholder documents, but predominant alignment is with the requirements of guidance provided from Scottish Government relating to part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) act 2015. The objectives, aims and resulting outcomes to be included, and which will therefore require to be subjected to assessment, are listed in Table 4.2 below.

The text shown in bold represents exact text from Scottish Government guidance of producing a food growing strategy. This was correct at the point of typing but might be subject to change following enactment.

**Table 4.2- Goals, Objectives and actions Aims**

1	<b><i>Aberdeen will be recognised as an exemplar for local food growing.</i></b> <b>We will take steps to make food growing opportunities available to all residents of Aberdeen to improve their health, reduce health inequalities and to alleviate food poverty.</b>	1.1	<i>We will have a strategy that the public, community planning partners, academic institutions and other organisations know about and which we will work together to implement.</i>  <i>Communities and politicians will understand the link between healthy people, good, local food and a high-quality environment in and around the city.</i>  <i>Granite City Growing will be a recognised part of Aberdeen’s policy and strategic priorities.</i>
		1.2	<i>People in the city will know where to go to receive support and help to start and continue their food growing journey.</i>

		1.3	<i>We will have a clear understanding of the spaces which are available for food growing, both now and in the future.</i>
		1.4	Involve key stakeholders to get more food-growing into prime locations and across the public estate.
		1.5	Create a culture where communities feel supported and encouraged to grow food on available land.
		1.6	Make food-growing visible in and around Aberdeen; within public parks, amenity land, on walls and roofs
		1.7	<i>There will be sufficient resources in place to sustain the strategy into the future.</i>
		1.8	<b>We will raise awareness about the benefits of food growing to mental and physical well-being through public engagement and encouraging the uptake of food-growing opportunities.</b>
2	<b>Through appropriate site management and design increase biodiversity, contribute to a Low Carbon Scotland, encourage climate change adaptation and mitigation (through changed behaviours) and improve the condition and carbon retention in the soil.</b>	2.1	Embed the requirement to increase biodiversity and climate change adaptation and mitigation within growing spaces through the choice of plants, heritage varieties, site design and management.
		2.2	<b>Signposting to training and learning opportunities, and encouraging behavioural change, which will all contribute to protecting our environment.</b>
		2.3	Providing opportunities for local production of food

			through all forms of community growing/grow-your-own which will reduce carbon mileage of food
3	Local food-growing will be part of a vibrant local food economy.	3.1	<b>Encourage all forms of community-led enterprise and social enterprise through making available and encouraging the uptake of food-growing opportunities.</b>
4	<b><i>Empowered communities, with support from ACC and its partners, will be collectively growing and enjoying food. We will make all of Aberdeen's food-growing spaces well managed community-empowered places, served by public transport and active travel, with quality facilities accessible by all, as far as is practicable.</i></b>	4.1	<b>Make the supply of allotment sites and food growing spaces transparent to all and compliant with the provisions of the Act</b>
		4.2	Manage allotment sites in the spirit of Granite City Growing's objectives making connections with the local communities and environment as far as possible.
		4.3	Support groups if they wish to become constituted or wish to consider the Asset Transfer process.
		4.4	Encourage knowledge development and the sharing of skills and training

## **5 Context of Granite City Growing**

### **5.1 Relationship with other PPS and environmental objectives**

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that the Environmental Report includes an outline of other relevant PPS and how environmental protection objectives have been taken into account in Granite City Growing preparation. This section covers these issues and describes the policy context within which Granite City Growing operates, and the constraints and targets that this context imposes on Granite City Growing. Table 5.1 lists the relevant PPS to Granite City Growing. Appendix 9.1 shows a more detailed analysis of each relevant PPS and its implications for Granite City Growing and Appendix 9.2 details where relevant, a summary of key SEA findings from these PPS. This list is tentative and may increase before the adoption of the PPS.

### **5.2 Analysis of relevant PPS**

From the analysis of the relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives, the key points arising from this analysis are that Granite City Growing should:

- Protect statutory and non-statutory protected sites for natural heritage interests i.e. habitats, species, earth science interests and landscape interests.
- Protect internationally important Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the terms of the Conservation Regulations 1994. Nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) notified under the terms of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Nationally important areas for landscape and visual amenity e.g. Designed Landscapes. Locally important wildlife sites e.g. Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and Local Nature Conservation Sites.
- Ensure compliance with statutory provisions for statutory protected species and with regional biodiversity plans. European Protected Species (EPS) (e.g. otters and bats), Wildlife and Countryside Act schedule 1 species (e.g. golden eagle), Wildlife and Countryside Act schedule 5 species (e.g. red squirrel and water vole), the Protection of Badgers Act; and with objectives of North East Scotland Biodiversity Action Plan (e.g. aspen hover fly and wych elm).
- Promote biodiversity, maintain and restore natural habitats and habitat networks.
- Maintain and support landscape character and local distinctiveness.
- Promote the provision of access links to adjacent access routes e.g. core path network, or existing footpaths.
- Promote sustainable use of water, encourage water efficiency.
- Actively promote sustainable flood risk management.
- Support the River Basin Management.
- Support a reduction in flood risk and mitigate the effects of floods.
- Mitigate the effects of droughts.
- Support strategies that help to limit or reduce the emissions of pollutants in the air, water and soil.
- Protect wildlife from disturbance, injury intentional destruction.
- Promote sustainable buildings, good design, safe environment, clean environment and good quality services.
- Promote sustainable alternatives to car and reduce congestion traffic pollution through walking and cycling.
- Promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement, health and safety.
- Promote strategies that do not degrade the environment.
- Promote the economy, support the community and the public service.

- Help to protect and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment.
- Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats.
- Ensure that the water quality and good ecological status required through the water framework directive are maintained.
- Reduce social inclusion and inequalities.

#### **5.4 Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment**

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 Schedule 3 requires that the Environmental Report includes a description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the PPS, and “the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected”. This section aims to describe the environmental context within which the PPS operates and the constraints and targets that this context imposes on the PPS. The detailed analysis of the baseline data is presented in Appendix 7.2.

#### **5.5 Likely evolution of the environment without Granite City Growing**

Future changes to the environment are inevitable due to human interventions that are unconnected to Granite City Growing. The food-growing strategy could contribute to reducing environmental problems in many SEA Topic areas.

**Table 5.1: Other relevant PPS and environmental protective objectives of Granite City Growing**

Name of Plan, Programme, Strategy or Environmental Protection Strategy	
<b>International Level</b>	
<b>Climate Change and Energy Sustainability</b>	
1.	EU Adaptation Strategy
2.	Europe 2020
3.	2030 Climate Framework
4.	EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020
5.	EU Strategy for Sustainable Development
<b>Air</b>	
6.	Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)
<b>Nature Conservation</b>	
7.	The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC
8.	The Birds Directive 2009/147/EC
9.	European Biodiversity Strategy to 2020
10.	New Urban Agenda 2017
<b>Water</b>	
11.	Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC
12.	Floods Directive 2007/60/EC
13.	Groundwater Directive (80/68/EEC)
14.	The Nitrates Directive 91/43/EC
<b>Soil and Landscape</b>	
15.	Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection
<b>Noise</b>	
16.	Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC
<b>Waste</b>	
17.	The Landfill Directive 99/31/EC
18.	The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC
19.	Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive 2009/128/EC
<b>National Level</b>	
<b>Overarching Planning Policy</b>	
20.	National Planning Framework for Scotland 3
21.	The Planning (Scotland) Act 2006
22.	Scottish Planning Policy 2014
<b>Cross-Sectoral</b>	
23.	Environmental Protection Act 1990
24.	Scotland's National Transport Strategy (2016)
25.	Scotland's Economic Strategy (2015)
26.	Choosing our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy
27.	National Performance Framework 2018
<b>Climate Change</b>	
28.	Climate Change Act 2008
29.	Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
30.	Climate Ready Scotland: Scottish Climate Adaptation Plan
31.	Climate Change Plan: The Third Report on Proposals and Policies
<b>Air</b>	
32.	Air Quality (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016
33.	National Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)
34.	Cleaner Air for Scotland – The Road to a Healthier Future 2015
<b>Heritage, Design and Regeneration</b>	



Name of Plan, Programme, Strategy or Environmental Protection Strategy	
35.	Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014
36.	Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland 2014
37.	Historic Environment Policy for Scotland 2019
38.	The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1997
39.	Creating Places: a policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland
40.	Designing Streets: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2010)
41.	People and Place: regeneration policy statement
42.	Achieving a Sustainable Future: Regeneration Strategy
<b>Landscape and soil</b>	
43.	The Scottish Soil Framework (2009)
44.	Getting the Best from our Land: A Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016-2021
45.	SNH Landscape Policy Framework Statement 05/01
46.	National Allotments Society Policies
<b>Homes, Population and Health</b>	
47.	Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
48.	Good Places Better Health 2008
49.	Equally well
50.	Scotland's National Food and Drink Policy
51.	Let's Make Scotland More Active: A Strategy for Physical Activity (2003)
52.	Equality Act 2010
53.	Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005
54.	Plenty – Food, farming and health in a new Scotland 2016
55.	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
<b>Nature Conservation</b>	
56.	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
57.	The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
58.	Scottish Biodiversity Strategy 2006
59.	2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity
60.	UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework
61.	The Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) The Conservation (Natural Habitats) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2007
62.	Scottish Forestry Strategy 2006
63.	Scottish Forestry Strategy Implementation Plan 2015-18
64.	Making the Links: Greenspace for a more successful and sustainable Scotland (2009)
65.	Pollinator Strategy for Scotland 2017-2027
66.	The Bees Act 1980
67.	The Bee Diseases and Pest Control (Scotland) Order 2007
<b>Water</b>	
68.	Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003
69.	Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 and The Water Environment (Miscellaneous)(Scotland) Regulations 2017.
70.	Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009)
71.	SEPA Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland v3 2009
72.	Water Environment (Groundwater and Priority Substances) (Scotland) Regulations 2009
73.	The Water Environment (Diffuse Pollution) (Scotland) Regulations 2008.
<b>Waste</b>	
74.	Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010)
75.	Waste Management (Scotland) Licensing Regulations 2011
<b>Noise</b>	
76.	Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006
<b>National Planning Advice &amp; Guidance</b>	
77.	PAN 60: Planning for Natural Heritage
78.	PAN 61: Planning and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems

Name of Plan, Programme, Strategy or Environmental Protection Strategy	
79.	PAN 63: Waste management planning
80.	PAN 65: Planning and Open Space
81.	PAN 69: Planning & Building Standards Advice on Flooding
82.	PAN 75: Planning for Transport
83.	PAN 77 Designing Safer Places
84.	PAN 78: Inclusive Design
85.	PAN 83: Masterplanning
<b>Regional Level</b>	
<b>Overarching Planning Policy</b>	
86.	Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014 (SDP)
<b>Cross- Sectoral</b>	
87.	Flood Risk Management Strategy North East Local Plan District
88.	North East Flood Risk Management Plan
89.	Regional Economic Strategy – securing the Future of the North East Economy
90.	Regional Transport Strategy 2013 - 2035 (RTS)
91.	Strategy for an Active Aberdeen 2016-2020
<b>Nature Conservation</b>	
92.	North East of Scotland Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2014- 2017
93.	Proposed Aberdeen Trees and Woodlands Strategy
<b>Local Level</b>	
94.	Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 (ALDP)
95.	Aberdeen Local Transport Strategy 2016-2021 (ALTS)
96.	Aberdeen City Air Quality Action Plan
97.	Aberdeen Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2020
98.	Aberdeen Nature Conservation Strategy 2010-2015
99.	Open Space Audit and Strategy 2011-2016
100.	Aberdeen City Core Paths Plan
101.	Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy 2018-2023 (LHS)
102.	Aberdeen Landscape Strategy 2002 and Proposed Landscape Strategy 2018
103.	Contaminated Land Strategy 2016
104.	Powering Aberdeen
105.	Aberdeen Adapts
106.	Aberdeen City Council Building Performance Policy
107.	City Centre Masterplan
108.	Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan
109.	Aberdeen City Waste Strategy 2014-2025

Potential changes to the environmental baseline without Granite City Growing are listed in Table 5.2 below.

**Table 5.2 Potential Environmental Changes without Granite City Growing**

SEA Topic	Possible Changes without Granite City Growing
<b>Biodiversity, flora &amp; fauna</b>	Without Granite City Growing adverse impacts from climate change for biodiversity would remain including; migration and loss of species, damage and degradation of habitats and habitat fragmentation. Adverse impacts on biodiversity from other activities implemented through other PPS like the ALDP, ALTS and LHS would still occur.
<b>Landscape</b>	Without Granite City Growing, implementation of projects from other PPS like the SDP, ALDP, ALTS and LHS will continue to exert some effects on landscape. Impacts on landscape character from the development of food-growing may take place.
<b>Water</b>	The River Dee is a SAC providing most of the water supply for the city. Land allocation and development under the ALDP would continue to exert adverse effects on water quantity and quality. The focus on water environmental quality and management will remain, to meet European directives. Without Granite City Growing adverse effects on food-growing from reduced summer rainfall levels and higher temperatures may not be addressed.
<b>Population &amp; Human health</b>	Without Granite City Growing the opportunity to improve physical health, mental health and the well-being of the people of Aberdeen in the future through food-growing activities may be missed.
<b>Soil</b>	Without Granite City Growing development actions under other PPS would continue to affect soil compaction and sealing. The potential to improve soil health at food-growing sites through the management of organic matter may however be missed.
<b>Material Assets</b>	Without Granite City Growing other PPS will continue to put demand on environmental resources, physical, economic, environmental and social assets. Without Granite City Growing the role that edible roofs and walls in the mitigation of climate impacts of damage and degradation to the built environment and infrastructure may not be realised.

## 5.6 Characteristics of Areas likely to be significantly affected

The analysis of the baseline information at Appendix 7.2 indicates that certain areas are likely to be significantly affected due to their sensitivity in terms of international, national and local designations. Granite City Growing is likely to have more significant effects on these areas than others. Although other areas may not be designated, the effects on those sites from the PPS could be cumulative.

## 5.7 Environmental problems

Environmental problems that affect the PPS were identified through discussions with stakeholders, information contained in the *UK Climate projections 09* and *UK Climate Risk Assessment*, as well as the analysis of baseline data relevant to Aberdeen City. The main issues relevant to Granite City Growing are summarised below.

**Table 5.3 Environmental Problems relevant to Granite City Growing**

SEA topics	Environmental Problem	Implications for Granite City Growing
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential loss of habitats from food growing spaces.</li> <li>• Potential loss of greenspace and wildlife corridors to food growing areas.</li> <li>• Potential decline in species population, loss of species and changes in wildlife distribution and numbers.</li> <li>• Potential increase in pests and diseases.</li> <li>• Potential wildlife disturbance and habitat degradation during the development of food growing at some sites.</li> <li>• Trees will be vulnerable to severe weather events, with wetter ground affecting stability during storms; and an increased risk of wildfire.</li> <li>• Pressure on the River Dee SAC, through low flows and from reduced rainfall.</li> <li>• Pressure on European Protected Species.</li> <li>• Non-native invasive species.</li> <li>• Poor site waste management.</li> <li>• Potential for spread of genetically modified species.</li> </ul>	<p>Granite City Growing should mitigate the effects on biodiversity and on protected and non-protected designations.</p> <p>It should promote actions to reduce fragmentation and impacts for wildlife and habitats, as well as encourage natural flood management whilst looking to enhance biodiversity, supporting use of heritage species and ensure compliance with controlling non-native invasive species.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential loss, erosion and a reduction in soil quality because of heavy rainfall, flooding and wind.</li> <li>• Potential erosion and a reduction in soil quality from food production.</li> <li>• Potential soil compaction and soil sealing from food growing site development, reducing the ability of soil to absorb heavy rainfall and pollutants.</li> <li>• Potential reduction in soil function, with impacts for biodiversity and food growing.</li> <li>• Soil contamination through flooding, soil being imported and use/poor storage of</li> </ul>	<p>Granite City Growing should monitor and address climate impacts on soil quality, soil function and soil stability.</p> <p>It should encourage greater use of permeable surfaces and promote the protection of soil carbon stores.</p>

	<p>chemicals. Loss of carbon from soil, due to food growing sites being developed on land.</p>	
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projections for an increase in the severity and frequency of heavy rainfall, result in flooding, sediment and diffuse pollutants entering water courses affecting water quality and the health of invertebrates and fish.</li> <li>• Potential low flows in water courses, will be a risk to freshwater ecosystems and species (Atlantic Salmon, Brown Trout, fresh water pearl mussels).</li> <li>• Potential increased need to abstract water for food growing sites.</li> <li>• Potential increase in incidences of algal bloom because of chemical use.</li> </ul>	<p>Projects under Granite City Growing should look to reduce impacts on water quality and ensure sustainable use of water. Dependent on scale abstraction of water might require licensing with the regulator.</p> <p>Granite City Growing should promote actions to reduce run off to reduce the risks of diffuse pollution to watercourses.</p>
<b>Landscape</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential increase in the frequency and severity of severe weather events could cause erosion, flooding and landslip.</li> <li>• The development of food growing sites could result in the change of landscape features, as well as changes to land form, land use, land cover and setting.</li> <li>• New food growing sites, result in a reduction in greenspace able to act as natural flood management.</li> <li>• Visual impact.</li> <li>• Loss of land to non-food growing structures e.g. sheds, parking etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Granite City Growing should promote resilient landscapes and protect landscape character. Promote actions to improve greenspace networks.</p> <p>Granite City Growing would consider visual impact on food growing on a project by project basis.</p>
<b>Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A potential projected growth in city population.</li> <li>• Climate impacts affecting food security.</li> </ul>	<p>Granite City Growing should increase the capacity and knowledge of local population in making food growing provision.</p>
<b>Human Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical use on food production.</li> <li>• Prevalence of pests and disease.</li> <li>• Trip hazards.</li> <li>• Poor diet.</li> <li>• Legionnaires disease from compost.</li> <li>• Medical conditions arising from food production.</li> <li>• Emissions produced by onsite equipment and composting.</li> <li>• Hayfever.</li> </ul>	<p>Granite City Growing should support good food growing and composting practice to ensure the health and wellbeing of people, plants and animals. Granite City Growing would look to encourage production of fresh produce, supporting plant-based nutrition.</p>
<b>Material Assets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased summer temperatures and a reduction in summer rainfall will increase need for water management and efficiency measures in buildings and demand for cooling.</li> <li>• Potential damage to infrastructure through vertical food production.</li> <li>• Vandalism and site security issues.</li> </ul>	<p>Granite City Growing should promote sustainable use and management of material assets. Promote actions to protect resources.</p>

## **6.1 Framework for assessing environmental effects**

We have assessed the options, vision, target, objectives, aims and resultant outcomes from Granite City Growing against SEA objectives, according to the questions shown in Table 6.1 below. We have predicted whether these effects will be negative, positive, uncertain, mixed or neutral, as indicated in the key. We have further evaluated the effects to determine their significance in relation to reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks and duration (permanent, temporary, long-term, short-term and medium-term). We have assessed cumulative impacts (direct, indirect, secondary and synergistic) in Table 6.4 below.

To help the assessment process and ensure consistency we set questions based on the SEA topics, the objectives and questions we used are shown the assessment Table 6.1 – Table 6:10 below, we have shown the full assessments and our reasons.

### **Key**

<b>++</b>	<b>Very positive</b>
<b>+</b>	<b>Positive</b>
<b>+/-</b>	<b>Mixed</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Neutral</b>
<b>-</b>	<b>Negative</b>
<b>--</b>	<b>Very negative</b>
<b>?</b>	<b>Uncertain</b>

**Table 6.1 Assessment of Option 1 – Do Nothing**

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?	Score (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	Comments (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
Biodiversity (flora and fauna)	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green and blue networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	0	<p>Areas of open / green space and watercourses would remain, and their biodiversity status would keep static not unless affected by other activities / PPS or policies around invasive non-native species.</p> <p>Other PPS will impact upon biodiversity, designated sites, protected species, habitat fragmentation and enhancement e.g. Tree and Woodland Strategy, Open Space Strategy, Nature Conservation Strategy over the long term.</p> <p>Without Granite City Growing there would be a lost opportunity to engage people about the importance of pollinators and their role food production.</p>
Soil	<p>To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and landslide?</li> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or</li> </ul>	-	<p>In line with food growing information, some production might be based on organic principles and happen without Granite City Growing being in place.</p> <p>Without Granite City Growing there would be a lost opportunity to engage people in valuing soil, understanding natural cycles, making use of contaminated land and making the</p>

		the water environment?		link between the quality of soil and food production. There could also be an adverse effect on soil from growing itself through loss of nutrients etc. However, it is considered that this would be on a very small scale in the short term.
<b>Water</b>	<p>To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC, and other watercourses?</li> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>	-	There are other PPS that deal with resource efficiency and flooding. However, without Granite City Growing there would be a lost opportunity to engage people in valuing water quality and availability, encouraging active use of rainwater harvesting, education on resource efficiency and good practice application of pesticides/fertilisers and the impact this has on the water cycle e.g. eutrophication (algal blooms).
<b>Landscape</b>	To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, “gateway” routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to</li> </ul>	0	This is very subjective. Some people are averse to some forms of allotments / food growing spaces that might promote a quirky streetscape e.g. through the reuse of materials. However, others might find such approaches innovative, making a diverse and stimulating urban environment which can soften what



		<p>society by landscape, the relevant cultural services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>		<p>can be a minimalist hard infrastructure. Without Granite City Growing there wouldn't be the opportunity to raise awareness of the food growing landscape.</p>
<b>Population</b>	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	-	<p>In the long-term population projections are set to increase. This greater capacity will lead to added strains on the existing infrastructure. Without Granite City Growing some personal and community resilience might be lost, further enhancing existing inequalities and missing the opportunity for social inclusion and cohesion in the long term.</p>
<b>Human Health</b>	<p>To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and community resilience?</li> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	-	<p>Other PPS are available to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing.</p> <p>However, Granite City Growing will initially focus on Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) areas to alleviate food poverty, improve physical and mental health, tackle social isolation, improve diets and access to fresh produce. It would be providing another recreational activity which would be accessible to all members of society. This opportunity would be lost if we chose to do nothing.</p>

<p><b>Material Assets</b></p>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	<p>-</p>	<p>Other PPS exist that look to protect and enhance material assets. Without Granite City Growing the opportunity could be lost to redevelop contaminated land, promote sustainable use of resources and support the development of regeneration programmes.</p>
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**Table 6.2 Assessment of Option 2 - Do Minimum**

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?	Score (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	Comments (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	+ / -	<p>It is likely that a piecemeal approach to supporting food growing through individual policies, plans and strategies would be less effective than a collaborative approach. It could be that potential food growing opportunities conflict with attaining other targets, for example wildflower meadows which are great for biodiversity being lost to food growing activity.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	<p>To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and landslide?</li> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or the water environment?</li> </ul>	+ / -	<p>In line with food growing guidance, some production might be based on organic principles and happen without groups working together. Without wider co-ordination there would be a lost opportunity to engage people in valuing soil, understanding natural cycles, making use of contaminated land and making the link between the quality of soil and food production on a broader scale.</p>

				There could be some negative impacts on soil through inappropriate management arising from lack of knowledge and skills.
<b>Water</b>	<p>To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC, and other watercourses?</li> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>	+ / -	There are other PPS that deal with resource efficiency and flooding. However, without a co-ordinated effort there could be a lost opportunity to engage people in best practice and shared learning. This could include valuing water quality and availability, encouraging active use of rainwater harvesting, education and good practice application of pesticides/fertilisers and the impact this has on the water cycle e.g. eutrophication (algal blooms). There could be some negative impacts because of lack of awareness of pollution and water resource efficiency.
<b>Landscape</b>	To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, "gateway" routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by landscape, in particular the relevant cultural services.</li> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>	0	This is very subjective. Some people are averse to some forms of allotments / food growing spaces that might promote a quirky streetscape e.g. through the reuse of materials. However, others might find such approaches innovative, making a diverse and stimulating urban environment which can soften what can be a minimalist hard infrastructure. Some food growing spaces offer the opportunity for local

				<p>distinctiveness, through carrying on traditions and preservation of heritage. Further, they can provide spaces for solitude and relaxation in what can often be a hectic urban environment.</p> <p>Without a co-ordinated approach to Granite City Growing there wouldn't be the opportunity to raise awareness of the food growing landscape.</p>
<b>Population</b>	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+ / -	<p>In the long-term population projections are set to increase. This greater capacity will lead to added strains on the existing infrastructure. With an ad hoc approach personal and community resilience might be improved in certain areas, though this could lead to enhancing existing inequalities further and missing the opportunity for social inclusion and cohesion in the long term.</p>
<b>Human Health</b>	<p>To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and community resilience?</li> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	0	<p>Other PPS are available to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing.</p> <p>However, ad hoc projects undertaken at a locality level might focus on Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) areas to alleviate food poverty, improve physical and mental health, tackle social isolation, improve diets and access to fresh produce; whereas health issues are</p>

				widespread across the entirety of the city. It would be providing some recreational activity which would be accessible to all members of society.
<b>Material Assets</b>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	+ / -	<p>Other PPS exist that look to protect and enhance material assets. Undertaking individual projects could lead to opportunities being lost to redevelop contaminated or vacant land, promote sustainable use of resources and support the development of regeneration programmes. However, some project might look to redevelop contaminated land and vacant sites and make best use of material assets.</p>

**Table 6.3 Assessment of Option 3 - Do Optimum**

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?	Score (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	Comments (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Granite City Growing will actively avoid impact on any designated sites and would look to support growing practices and open space management that actively encourages biodiversity.</p> <p>Development of orchards could look to support multiple policies. Maintenance of these and any food growing space would also support avoiding the spread of invasive non-native species, by their removal and through awareness raising programmes.</p> <p>In would be an aim of Granite City Growing to improve connectivity and function of such spaces, mapping these across the city and where possible making them accessible to all. Food growing on sites which are already biodiverse would not be encouraged.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	<p>To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and landslide?</li> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Projects arising from Granite City Growing would look to support practices that protect and enhance soil function. This might include no-dig activities, encouraging application of home-made compost and ensuring limited application of artificial chemicals, however Granite City</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or the water environment?</li> </ul>		<p>Growing can't ensure these practices will be applied.</p> <p>Food growing would require soil improvement through application of fertilisers and organic material. The use of peat free alternatives and sensible application of fertilisers would be encouraged. Food growing would also reduce the potential for soil erosion and enable water retention opportunities.</p> <p>No projects would be encouraged on land considered carbon rich. Further projects would be encouraged to adopt measures to prevent soil sealing and compaction; working in parallel with the requirements of Aberdeen Adapts.</p>
<b>Water</b>	<p>To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC, and other watercourses?</li> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> </ul>	+ / -	<p>Through stakeholder collaboration Granite City Growing would seek to educate those involved about the importance of protecting the water environment, the impact of pesticide and fertiliser use, adopting organic gardening principles and encouraging water efficiency.</p> <p>It should be acknowledged that if food growing capacity increases city wide so will the demand for watering the crops. However, through active encouragement and support rainwater harvesting measures should be used wherever practicable to do so.</p> <p>There are also other PPS that deal with the water environment and flood</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>		risk.
<b>Landscape</b>	To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, “gateway” routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by landscape, in particular the relevant cultural services.</li> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>	+	<p>This is very subjective. Some people are averse to some forms of allotments / food growing spaces that might promote a quirky streetscape e.g. through the reuse of materials. However, others might find such approaches innovative, making a diverse and stimulating urban environment which can soften what can be a minimalist hard infrastructure. It is envisaged that the latter would have a greater positive overall. Some food growing spaces offer the opportunity for local distinctiveness, through carrying on traditions and preservation of heritage. Further, they can provide spaces for solitude and relaxation in what can often be a hectic urban environment. Through effective collaboration, landscape can be considered and the aesthetics of the food growing space can be developed in accordance with community input.</p>
<b>Population</b>	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and</li> </ul>	+	<p>In the long-term population may increase. This greater capacity will lead to added strains on the existing infrastructure. With a co-ordinated approach it is less likely that inequalities are enhanced further, and opportunities are lost for social inclusion and cohesion. Granite</p>

	city.	cohesion?		City Growing would look to take a considered approach to improving personal and community resilience across the whole of the city not just within specific areas.
<b>Human Health</b>	To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and community resilience?</li> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+	Other PPS are available to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing. A co-ordinated approach to food growing will help to alleviate food poverty, improve physical and mental health, tackle social isolation, improve diets and access to fresh produce across the entirety of the city. It would be providing some recreational activity which would be accessible to all members of society.

<p><b>Material Assets</b></p>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	<p>+</p>	<p>Other PPS exist that look to protect and enhance material assets. However, by taking a collaborative approach, Granite City Growing could lead to opportunities to redevelop contaminated and vacant land, promote sustainable use of resources and support the development of regeneration programmes.</p>
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Overall, Option 3 - Do Optimum, is the best option in terms of its effects on the environment. This is the option for developing Granite City Growing.

**Table 6.4 – Assessment against Objective 1 of Granite City Growing:**

***Aberdeen will be recognised as an exemplar for local food growing. We will take steps to make food growing opportunities available to all residents of Aberdeen to improve their health, reduce health inequalities and to alleviate food poverty.***

<b>SEA Topic</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?</b>	<b>Score</b> (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	<b>Comments</b> (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	0	<p>This objective will actively avoid impact on any designated sites and would look to support growing practices and open space management that actively encourages biodiversity.</p> <p>Development of orchards could look to support multiple policies. Maintenance of these and any food growing space would also support avoiding the spread of invasive non-native species, by their removal and through awareness raising programmes.</p> <p>This objective would look to improve connectivity and function of such spaces, mapping these across the city and where possible making them accessible to all.</p> <p>Food growing on sites which are already biodiverse would not be encouraged.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and</li> </ul>	+/-	Projects arising from this objective would look to support practices that protect and enhance soil function. This might include no-dig activities, encouraging application of home-made

		<p>landslide?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or the water environment?</li> </ul>		<p>compost and ensuring limited application of artificial chemicals, however it can't ensure these practices will be applied.</p> <p>Food growing would require soil improvement through application of fertilisers and organic material. The use of peat free alternatives and sensible application of fertilisers would be encouraged. Food growing could also reduce the potential for soil erosion if it leads to more vegetative cover and enable water retention opportunities. It could also lead to soil being exposed to heavy rain at different times in the cropping cycle. No projects would be encouraged on land considered carbon rich. Further projects would be encouraged to adopt measures to prevent soil sealing and compaction; working in parallel with the requirements of Aberdeen Adapts.</p>
<b>Water</b>	<p>To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> </ul>	<b>+/-</b>	<p>Through stakeholder collaboration this objective would seek to educate those involved about the importance of protecting the water environment, the impact of pesticide and fertiliser use, adopting organic gardening principles and encouraging water efficiency. It should be acknowledged that if food growing capacity increases city wide so will the demand for watering the crops. However, through active encouragement and support rainwater</p>

	recharge within carrying capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC, and other watercourses?</li> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>		harvesting measures should be used wherever practicable to do so.
<b>Landscape</b>	To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, “gateway” routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by landscape, in particular the relevant cultural services.</li> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>	+/-	This is very subjective. Some people are averse to some forms of allotments / food growing spaces that might promote a quirky streetscape e.g. through the reuse of materials. However, others might find such approaches innovative, making a diverse and stimulating urban environment which can soften what can be a minimalist hard infrastructure. Through effective collaboration, landscape can be considered and the aesthetics of the food growing space can be developed in accordance with community input.
<b>Population</b>	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+	In the long-term population projections are set to increase. This greater capacity will lead to added strains on the existing infrastructure. This objective could improve social inclusion and cohesion. It would improve personal and community resilience across the whole of the city not just within specific areas.
<b>Human Health</b>	To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health</li> </ul>	+	This objective will help to alleviate food poverty, improve physical and mental health, tackle social isolation, improve

		<p>and wellbeing and community resilience?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>		<p>diets and access to fresh produce across the entirety of the city. It would be providing some recreational activity which would be accessible to all members of society.</p>
<b>Material Assets</b>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	+	<p>This objective could lead to opportunities to redevelop contaminated and vacant land, promote sustainable use of resources and support the development of regeneration programmes.</p>

**Table 6.5 – Assessment against Objective 2 of Granite City Growing:**

**Through appropriate site management and design increase biodiversity, contribute to a Low Carbon Scotland, encourage climate change adaptation and mitigation (through changed behaviours) and improve the condition and carbon retention in the soil.**

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?	Score (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	Comments (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	+	<p>This objective would actively avoid impact on any designated sites and would look to support growing practices and open space management that actively encourages biodiversity.</p> <p>Development of orchards could look to support multiple policies over the longer term. Maintenance of these and any food growing space could also support avoiding the spread of invasive non-native species, by their removal and through awareness raising programmes which could be met over the shorter term.</p> <p>This objective would look to improve connectivity and function of the green space network through informed design, and where possible making them accessible to all.</p> <p>Food growing on sites which are already biodiverse would not be encouraged.</p> <p>Activities such as bee keeping and planting of pollinator species would be supported.</p> <p>Further, guidance on using organic methods for plant growing and soil maintenance would be advised.</p> <p>Choice of plants and companion</p>



				<p>planting would encourage greater pollinator whilst working with nature to reduce the use of pesticides and artificial fertilisers.</p> <p>On site composting and application of green manures can also be advantageous to site biodiversity.</p> <p>Food growing sites would include spaces not used for food-growing which could be used to host plants that encourage wildlife.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and landslide?</li> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or the water environment?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Projects arising from this objective would look to support practices that protect and enhance soil function. This might include no-dig activities, encouraging application of home-made compost and ensuring limited application of artificial chemicals, however it can't ensure these practices will be applied.</p> <p>Food growing would require soil improvement through application of fertilisers and organic material. The use of peat free alternatives and sensible application of fertilisers would be encouraged. Food growing could also reduce the potential for soil erosion if it leads to more vegetative cover and enable water retention opportunities. It could also lead to soil being exposed to heavy rain at different times in the cropping cycle.</p> <p>No projects would be encouraged on land considered carbon rich. Further</p>

				<p>projects would be encouraged to adopt measures to prevent soil sealing and compaction; working in parallel with the requirements of Aberdeen Adapts. This objective would seek to encourage on site composting which can then be applied in situ as a mulch or dug in; negating the need to import alternatives.</p> <p>Measures could be taken to protect the soil from wind and water erosion through effective site management e.g. through infrastructure or appropriate planting and the use of permeable surfaces. Contaminated soil would be assessed, and suitable growing practices advised. A site used for food growing would likely have a high organic content over time and would be protected by the plants growing there themselves.</p> <p>Soil can be conditioned through the application of green manures, which can also support further biodiversity during non-growing months. Consideration could also be given to using soil conditioner developed through the Council's food waste collections.</p>
Water	To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> </ul>	-	Through stakeholder collaboration this objective would seek to educate those involved about the importance of protecting the water environment and support wider water management

	<p>maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC, and other watercourses?</li> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>		<p>measures such as reducing the impact of pesticide and fertiliser use, adopting organic gardening principles and encouraging water efficiency.</p> <p>It should be acknowledged that if food growing capacity increases city wide so will the demand for watering the crops. However, through active encouragement and support rainwater harvesting measures should be used wherever practicable to do so.</p>
Landscape	<p>To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, “gateway” routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by landscape, in particular the relevant cultural services.</li> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Some food growing spaces offer the opportunity for local distinctiveness, through carrying on traditions and preservation of heritage. Further, they can provide spaces for solitude and relaxation in what can often be a hectic urban environment.</p> <p>Through effective collaboration, landscape can be considered and the aesthetics of the food growing space can be developed in accordance with community input.</p> <p>Effective site design could include landscape features such as dry stone walls, pollarded and pleached trees, wildlife corridors, stone walls, use of Industrial Bulk Containers (IBC)s for water collection etc.</p>
Population	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> </ul>	+	<p>It would support local food production helping to reduce emissions associated with ‘food prints’.</p>

	<p>and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>		<p>Food growers would tend towards seasonal produce that grows in a Scottish climate, that requires less human input as it is already resilient to weather within North East Scotland. This would be beneficial to local biodiversity.</p>
Human Health	<p>To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and community resilience?</li> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+	<p>A co-ordinated approach to food growing will help to alleviate food poverty, improve physical and mental health, tackle social isolation, improve diets and access to fresh produce across the entirety of the city. It would be providing some recreational activity which would be accessible to all members of society.</p> <p>Reducing food miles can equate to reduced emissions locally, which could lead to improvements in air quality.</p> <p>Proximity to the natural environment could help support mental health outcomes.</p>

<p><b>Material Assets</b></p>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	<p>+</p>	<p>Rainwater harvesting infrastructure can help support food production through capturing water during periods of wet weather and allowing usage of water during drier periods. Site design would be encouraged to take account of on-site composting, water usage, material reuse, accessibility, flooding, natural features and historic assets; minimising demand for raw materials.</p>
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**Table 6.6 – Assessment against Objective 3 of Granite City Growing:** Local food-growing will be part of a vibrant local food economy.

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?	Score (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	Comments (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Measures to encourage the benefits to the local economy could increase the supply of honey, and heritage varieties of fruits, herbs and vegetables into the local economy. As allotments and food-growing sites become more aligned to the best practice of Granite City Growing more biodiversity outcomes could be achieved. The biodiversity gains of new sites would depend on the biodiversity value of the site before food-growing commenced.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	<p>To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and landslide?</li> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be</li> </ul>	+/-	<p>Projects arising from this objective would look to support practices that protect and enhance soil function on allotments and other food-growing spaces. This might include no-dig activities, encouraging application of home-made compost and ensuring limited application of artificial</p>

		properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or the water environment?		chemicals; however it can't ensure these practices will be applied. Food growing would require soil improvement through application of fertilisers and organic material. The use of peat free alternatives and sensible application of fertilisers would be encouraged. Food growing would also reduce the potential for soil erosion and enable water retention opportunities. No projects would be encouraged on land considered carbon rich. Further projects would be encouraged to adopt measures to prevent soil sealing and compaction; working in parallel with the requirements of Aberdeen Adapts. Projects which achieve some level of financial sustainability will last longer allowing cumulative benefits to the soil to build up.
Water	<p>To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee</li> </ul>	+/-	Encouraging water efficiency and innovation could have benefits to the wider economy at times of water stress. However, the watering of crops may cause a potential run off of pollutants into watercourses.

	capacity.	<p>SAC, and other watercourses?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>		
Landscape	To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, “gateway” routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by landscape, in particular the relevant cultural services.</li> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Some food growing spaces offer the opportunity for local distinctiveness, through carrying on traditions and preservation of heritage. Further, they can provide spaces for solitude and relaxation in what can often be a hectic urban environment positively influencing the wellbeing of the workforce.</p> <p>The innovative use of urban food-growing could improve Aberdeen’s tourism potential. A food trail or event would benefit the local economy.</p>
Population	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+	<p>In the long-term population projections predict a potential increase. This could lead to added strains on the existing infrastructure.</p> <p>With a co-ordinated approach it is less likely that inequalities are enhanced further, and opportunities are lost for social inclusion and cohesion. This objective would look to take a considered approach to improving personal and community resilience across the whole of the city not just within specific areas.</p> <p>A vibrant local food economy could help to feed a larger population without</p>



				increasing a proportionate need for more freighted food.
Human Health	To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and community resilience?</li> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Reducing food miles by emphasising the benefits of locally grown food to the economy can also equate to reduced emissions locally, which could lead to improvements in air quality. Planting more orchards will sequester carbon and improve air quality locally.</p> <p>Proximity to the natural environment could help support mental health outcomes. This could flow from the desire to have a healthy workforce to service a local economy.</p>

<p><b>Material Assets</b></p>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	<p>+</p>	<p>This objective could lead to opportunities to redevelop contaminated and vacant land, promote sustainable use of resources and support the development of regeneration programmes. Rainwater harvesting infrastructure can help support food production through capturing water during periods of wet weather and allowing usage of water during drier periods. Site design would be encouraged to take account of on-site composting, water usage, material reuse, accessibility, flooding, natural features and historic assets; minimising demand for raw materials. Social enterprises and businesses may be able to scale up the benefits achieved.</p>
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**Table 6.7 – Assessment against Objective 4 of Granite City Growing:**

**Empowered communities, with support from ACC and its partners, will be collectively growing and enjoying food. We will make all of Aberdeen’s food-growing spaces well managed community-empowered places, served by public transport and active travel, with quality facilities accessible by all, as far as is practicable.**

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Option/Objective/Action Plan...?	Score (++, +, -, --, ?, 0)	Comments (long-term, short-term and medium-term reversibility or irreversibility of affects, risks, duration (permanent, temporary))
<b>Biodiversity (flora and fauna)</b>	<p>To conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species, including populations of protected species, habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site?</li> <li>• Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats, resting places or roosts?</li> <li>• Protect and avoid fragmentation of semi natural habitats and native species relying on them?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and/or restoration?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance areas of trees, woodland or hedges?</li> <li>• Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by semi-natural habitats and their wildlife?</li> <li>• Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species?</li> </ul>	+	<p>There is already some allotment management guidance in place which supports biodiversity. This guidance could be reviewed and aligned with the best practice guidance for managing other community food-growing spaces. Quality facilities could include composting facilities and rainwater harvesting. Sites could be encouraged to host bee hives, plant crop-trees and maintain edges and hedgerows so as to maximise their biodiversity value. Granite City Growing would not seek to impact on any designated sites and would look to support growing practices and open space management that actively encourages biodiversity.</p> <p>Development of orchards could look to support multiple policies. Maintenance of these and any food growing space</p>

				<p>would also support avoiding the spread of invasive non-native species, by their removal and through awareness raising programmes.</p> <p>In would be an aim of Granite City Growing to improve connectivity and function of such spaces, mapping these across the city and where possible making them accessible to all. Food growing on sites which are already biodiverse would not be encouraged.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	To protect and enhance soil function, reducing contamination, safeguarding soil quantity and quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimise the loss of carbon rich soils?</li> <li>• Promote a reduction in soil sealing, loss of soil and compaction?</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of erosion, landslip and landslide?</li> <li>• Support measures to reduce risks of soil contamination?</li> <li>• Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors, such as human health or the water environment?</li> </ul>	<b>+/-</b>	<p>Projects arising from this objective would look to support practices that protect and enhance soil function on allotments and other food-growing spaces. This might include no-dig activities, encouraging application of home-made compost and ensuring limited application of artificial chemicals, however it can't ensure these practices will be applied. Food growing would require soil improvement through application of fertilisers and organic material. The use of peat free alternatives and sensible application of fertilisers would be encouraged. Food growing would also reduce the potential for soil erosion and enable water retention opportunities.</p> <p>No projects would be encouraged on land considered carbon rich. Further projects would be encouraged to adopt</p>

				measures to prevent soil sealing and compaction; working in parallel with the requirements of Aberdeen Adapts.
Water	<p>To protect and enhance the water environment, promoting sustainable use of water and ensuring that the water quality is maintained.</p> <p>To mitigate the effects of flooding and droughts.</p> <p>To maintain levels of water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of water bodies, protecting species and habitats reliant on the water environment?</li> <li>• Protect and improve water quality?</li> <li>• Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses or groundwater?</li> <li>• Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies?</li> <li>• Support sustainable flood risk management, including the development of SUDS and green, blue infrastructure?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC, and other watercourses?</li> <li>• Increase areas at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts on the coastline?</li> </ul>	+/-	<p>Through engagement with allotment holders and people overseeing community growing spaces this objective would seek to educate about the importance of protecting the water environment, the impact of pesticide and fertiliser use, adopting organic gardening principles and encouraging water efficiency.</p> <p>It should be acknowledged that if food growing capacity increases city wide so will the demand for watering the crops. However, it is hoped that this would be done through rainwater harvesting measures wherever practicable to do so.</p>
Landscape	To promote, protect and enhance landscape character and local distinctiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse visual impacts or impacts on setting?</li> <li>• Avoid adverse effects on protected/designated landscapes townscapes and seascapes?</li> <li>• Enhance the character, distinctiveness and quality of the landscape, townscape, coast, seascapes, “gateway” routes and setting of the city and surrounding areas?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the services provided to society by landscape, in particular the relevant cultural services.</li> <li>• Degrade the coastal environment?</li> </ul>	+/-	<p>Some food growing spaces offer the opportunity for local distinctiveness, through carrying on traditions and preservation of heritage.</p> <p>Well managed spaces may be more acceptable visually although this will depend on the previous use and view of residents.</p>

Population	<p>To promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement and health and safety, in a rising population.</p> <p>To reduce inequalities across sectors of society and between areas of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities to improve personal and community resilience?</li> <li>• Help to reduce inequalities and the impacts of climate injustice?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the essential services provided to society by the natural environment?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	+	<p>Well managed allotment sites will efficiently interact with the allotments waiting list potentially matching demand and supply more effectively. Offering mini-plots will allow more people to begin their food-growing journey and become more resilient to food insecurity.</p>
Human Health	<p>To protect and enhance human health, wellbeing and quality of life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to reduce impacts of climate change on human health?</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and community resilience?</li> <li>• Support and encourage food security?</li> <li>• Retain and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space?</li> <li>• Support and encourage sustainable travel modes?</li> <li>• Support opportunities for social equality and cohesion?</li> </ul>	++	<p>A co-ordinated approach to allotments and food growing spaces could give more access to fresh food and the opportunity to be will help to alleviate food poverty, improve physical and mental health, tackle social isolation, and improve diets and access to fresh produce across the entirety of the city. It would be providing some recreational activity which would be accessible to all members of society.</p> <p>Reducing food miles can equate to reduced emissions locally, which could lead to improvements in air quality.</p> <p>Proximity to the natural environment could help support mental health outcomes.</p>

<p><b>Material Assets</b></p>	<p>To protect and enhance, where appropriate, buildings, infrastructure natural and historic assets and open space.</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the protection and enhancement of buildings, infrastructure, natural and historic assets?</li> <li>• Promote the sustainable use of resources, including waste and energy?</li> <li>• Minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>• Reduce pressure social, utilities and communications infrastructure?</li> <li>• Support the development of flood prevention and regeneration programmes?</li> </ul>	<p>+</p>	<p>This objective could lead to opportunities to redevelop contaminated and vacant land, promote sustainable use of resources and support the development of regeneration programmes. Rainwater harvesting infrastructure can help support food production through capturing water during periods of wet weather and allowing usage of water during drier periods. Site design would be encouraged to take account of on-site composting, water usage, material reuse, accessibility, flooding, natural features and historic assets; minimising demand for raw materials. Existing allotments and food-growing sites may be inspired to look at these sorts of improvements retrospectively.</p>
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### **6.3. Cumulative Effect Assessment**

Paragraph 6 (e) of Schedule 3, of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that we assess the likely significant effects on the environment, including secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects. We have assessed cumulative effects of Granite City Growing, taking into account the information available to us.

In doing so, we have considered

- (i) the evolution of the environment without Granite City Growing,
- (ii) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected, and
- (iii) the assessment undertaken to date.

In this part of the report, we have assessed direct/indirect/secondary, time crowding, time lag, space crowding, cross-boundary, nibbling and synergistic effects in gauging cumulative effects. We have presented the detailed assessment in Table 6.7 below.



**Table 6.8 Assessment of Cumulative and Synergistic effects of Granite City Growing**

Policy Options	Objective one	Objective two	Objective three	Objective four	Cumulative Effects	Comment Cumulative effects including: Time crowding (frequent and repetitive effect); Time lag (long delays in cause and effect); space crowding (high spatial density of effects); cross-boundary (effects occurring distances from source); synergistic (effects from multiple sources or combined effects different in nature from the individuals); indirect (secondary effects resulting from a primary activity); nibbling (incremental)
<b>Water</b>	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	<b>Water:</b> The overall goals and priorities of Granite City Growing will potentially put more pressure on the water environment however there is an opportunity to, promote efficient use of water and reduce risks of water pollution of the general water environment and any underground water reserves and aquifers. If Granite City Growing does not go ahead and best -practice advice is not communicated nor encouraged, there could be cumulative, long-term effects with a reduction in water quality through nibbling effects.
<b>Soil</b>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	<b>Soil:</b> Some individual projects could lead to short-term soil compaction and sealing in the setting-up stages or between crops; but the action of continued cropping and soil preparation for food-growing will provide an incentive to improve its quality and reduce the risks over time. Overall, if best practice is communicated and followed, Granite City Growing could lead to a long term cumulative positive effect on soil by potentially improving its structure and protecting it from flooding and erosion risks. Granite City Growing would not be able to enforce a positive soil management regime however it could only encourage best practice.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	0	+	+	+	+	<b>Biodiversity:</b> Actions to protect and enhance biodiversity within food-growing projects will lead to incrementally positive effects in the long term. There will be positive secondary effects for soil health over time. Cumulatively and over a long-term time frame Granite City Growing could contribute to the protection of biodiversity and habitats by: monitoring for pests, disease and invasive non-native species; creating more diversity in parks and greenspaces; managing resources responsibly; encourage tree planting; providing spaces for bee hives and planting for pollinators. There may also be direct and indirect cross boundary impacts on mobile species and time lag factors for biodiversity.
<b>Landscape</b>	+/-	+	+	+/-	+/-	<b>Landscape:</b> Some of Granite City Growing individual projects could have a direct and long-term effect on the landscape setting of Aberdeen, with potential cross boundary effects. The use of land for food-growing may have a positive and negative impact on landscape. It could result in fragmentation. However, the majority of Granite City Growing projects are unlikely to have any significant impact on landscape over the next five years however there may be a nibbling effect over time.
<b>Material Assets</b>	+	+	+	+	+	<b>Material Assets:</b> Through the use of natural materials where possible and promoting composting it is not envisaged that there will be any adverse effects.

<b>Population</b>	+	+	+	+	+	<b>Population:</b> Creating more opportunities for food-growing could increase skills in this area potentially creating jobs and contributing to a local food economy in the longer term. The cumulative effects of food-growing actions will contribute positively towards community resilience and food security. In that sense, it is not envisaged that there will be any adverse effects.
<b>Human health</b>	+	+	+	++	+	<b>Human Health:</b> Food-growing as an activity has the potential to improve mental health, physical activity levels and wellbeing in the long-term. The product of food-growing will provide better access to fresh fruit and vegetables with an overall synergistic positive effect on human health. There will however be a time lag between setting up more food-growing opportunities and measuring improved health outcomes. There may be indirect negative effects if food-growing sites reduce other recreational provision. Where there is a 'change of use' this will be considered within the planning process on a case by case basis.

**Key**      + = positive effect    ++ = significant positive effect    - = negative effect    -- = significant negative effect    0 = neutral effect    ? = uncertain effect

## 7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

The SEA Directive requires that through mitigation measures, recommendations will be made to prevent, reduce or compensate for the negative effects of implementing the strategy. These measures are listed in Table 7.1 below.

**Table 7.1 Proposed Mitigation Measures**

<b>SEA Issue</b>	<b>Plan Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures/enhancement</b>	<b>When should mitigation be considered?</b>	<b>Who is responsible for undertaking the mitigation?</b>
<b>Water</b>	Community food-growing sites will require access to water. Run-off from sites may cause pollution to watercourses.	Best practice will be signposted and supported through direct engagement with allotment-holders and community garden project leads. Rainwater harvesting and organic gardening techniques will be encouraged to prevent and reduce risks to the water environment. Appropriate measures to reduce risk of run-off will be considered on a case by case basis.	When projects are being developed and implemented.	Various stakeholders, with lead project managers taking overarching responsibility.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Creation of new food-growing spaces could affect species and habitats through fragmentation or disturbance in the short term. They also create an opportunity to increase biodiversity on sites of low value.	The Greenspace Network policy will be applied for sites where planning permission is required so that proposals ensure habitat links are maintained and enhanced. A Habitat's Regulation Appraisal (HRA) will be undertaken where a proposal is likely to affect the Natura 2000 sites which will outline site specific mitigation measures. Best practice will be signposted and supported through direct engagement with allotment-holders and community garden project leads. Existing biological records will be examined and advice taken on a project-by-project basis to protect and enhance the existing biodiversity through site-design and management. Opportunities to enhance conditions for pollinator species should be prioritised. Bee-keeping opportunities will be supported.	When projects are being developed and implemented.	Various stakeholders, with lead project managers taking overarching responsibility.

<b>Soil</b>	Potential for soil sealing and compaction in the construction of new food-growing spaces is possible. There will however be long term benefits to soil as gardeners invest in its quality over time.	Best practice will be signposted and supported through direct engagement with allotment-holders and community garden project leads. Those undertaking works will be required to ensure that every effort is made to minimise soil sealing and compaction and create permeable surfaces and to invest in the long-term health of the soil.	When projects are being developed and implemented.	Various stakeholders, with lead project managers taking overarching responsibility.
<b>Landscape</b>	Potential for positive and negative impacts on landscape character and visual impact.	Best practice will be signposted and supported through direct engagement with allotment-holders and community garden project leads. Good site management could improve visual amenity. Boundary and tree planting schemes will be encouraged as part of individual project plans where appropriate.	When projects are being developed and implemented.	Various stakeholders, with lead project managers taking overarching responsibility.
<b>Human health and population</b>	Positive impact from food-growing as an activity and from the accessibility of fresh fruit and vegetables locally.	Best practice will be signposted and supported through direct engagement with allotment-holders and community garden project leads. Good site design and management should prevent risks of injury or harm.	When projects are being developed and implemented	Various stakeholders, with lead project managers taking overarching responsibility.

## 8 Monitoring

### 8.1 Monitoring Plan

Aberdeen City Council is required to monitor the significant environmental effects when the plan is implemented. Although significant adverse effects have not been identified, a precautionary approach has been taken, suggesting what might happen if the detailed list of projects and actions give rise to some potential significant adverse effects in the future. Table 8.1 below shows our thinking. But this thinking is subject to modification and refinement when further details are known.

**Table 8.1 Monitoring Plan**

<b>Effects</b>	<b>What sort of information is required?</b>	<b>Where will information be obtained from?</b>	<b>Are there gaps in the existing information and how can it be resolved?</b>	<b>When should the remedial action be considered?</b>	<b>Who is responsible for undertaking the monitoring?</b>	<b>How should the results be presented?</b>	<b>What remedial actions could be taken?</b>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Qualitative and quantitative impact on the qualifying features of the River Dee SAC	Dee Catchment Management Plan	Projects details and implementation	When any Deeside projects are well defined in terms of how, what and where. Remedial action to be considered if water quality is likely to deteriorate or as a resource it is likely to be under pressure.	Project manager of each project. Aberdeen City Council Environment Team, SNH, SEPA, Dee Catchment Partnership, North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership	As and when necessary	Take advice from relevant parties. Explore rainwater harvesting or other remedial actions.
	Volume of water abstraction	Scottish Water	Projects details and implementation	When there are changes to water supply / demand projections.	Project manager of each project. Scottish Water	As and when necessary.	Take advice from Scottish Water and SEPA.

<b>Effects</b>	<b>What sort of information is required?</b>	<b>Where will information be obtained from?</b>	<b>Are there gaps in the existing information and how can it be resolved?</b>	<b>When should the remedial action be considered?</b>	<b>Who is responsible for undertaking the monitoring?</b>	<b>How should the results be presented?</b>	<b>What remedial actions could be taken?</b>
	Degree of habitat fragmentation	Open Space Strategy, Nature Conservation Strategy, LBAP, and Greenspace Network reviews, NESBREC	Project detail and implementation.	If ecological surveys, assessments or monitoring suggests negative impact on habitats and species are likely	Project manager of each project. Aberdeen City Council Environment Teams, SNH, SEPA, Dee Catchment Partnership, North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership.	Open Space Audit	Take advice from SNH or ecological expertise within Aberdeen City Council.
<b>Water</b>	Qualitative and quantitative impact on the qualifying features of the River Dee SAC	Dee Catchment Management Plan  SNH on the impact on the qualifying interests of the River Dee SAC  North East Flood Risk Management Plan  Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Project detail and implementation.	When projects are being designed.  When data from SEPA and SNH indicate potential reduction in water availability and quality from the Dee.	Project manager of each project. Relevant and statutory agencies.	As and when necessary	Take advice from statutory agencies like Scottish Water, SNH, SEPA.

<b>Effects</b>	<b>What sort of information is required?</b>	<b>Where will information be obtained from?</b>	<b>Are there gaps in the existing information and how can it be resolved?</b>	<b>When should the remedial action be considered?</b>	<b>Who is responsible for undertaking the monitoring?</b>	<b>How should the results be presented?</b>	<b>What remedial actions could be taken?</b>
<b>Landscape</b>	Visual impact assessment of food-growing spaces on visually prominent areas	Landscape appraisal  Landscape character assessment  Public complaints	Project detail and implementation.	When projects under Granite City Growing are being implemented and when landscape appraisal indicate it is an issue in a landscape or townscape setting.  When there is a large amount of opposition to the project.	Project manager of each project. Environmental Policy Team, Aberdeen City Council	As and when necessary	Take advice from planning professionals.
<b>Population &amp; Human health</b>	Evidencing positive effects.  Number of people affected	Population Needs Assessment and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. Individual project monitoring.	Project detail and implementation.	When projects under Granite City Growing are planned and implemented.	Project manager of each project	As and when necessary	Take advice from relevant stakeholders and partners
<b>Material Assets</b>	Evidencing effects	Population Needs Assessment and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. Individual project monitoring.	Project detail and implementation.	When projects under Granite City Growing are planned and implemented.	Project manager of each project	As and when necessary	Take advice from relevant stakeholders and partners

## **8.2 An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with**

The preferred option (Option 3) is chosen as it is the option with the most positive effects on the environment (see table 6.1). Producing a coherent, long-term vision across multiple organisations will require joined up working, increase impetus to adapt to climate change and help to avoid ad-hoc individual development projects, ensuring that development is well planned and has the least possible impact on the environment.

## **8.3 General Difficulties, Weaknesses and Limitations**

A difficulty of this Environmental Report is that Aberdeen Adapts is a high level multi-organisation strategy document and therefore could not go into detail about every individual project that is expected to fall out of it and leaves the assessment at a fairly high strategic level.



## 9. Appendices: Granite City Growing Context, Baseline & Assessments

At the time of writing this report, this is the list we are working with. We do not think the list is exhaustive but the ones listed here capture main themes. If new PPS are known before Granite City Growing is adopted, the report will be updated.

### Appendix 9.1 - Links to other PPS & Environmental Protection Objectives

	Name of PPS / Environmental protection objective	Main Requirements of the PPS	Implications of the PPS for Granite City Growing.
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>			
<b>Climate Change</b>			
1.	EU Adaptation Strategy	3 key objectives. Promoting action by member states and supporting adaptation in cities. Promoting adaptation in vulnerable sectors and ensuring Europe's infrastructure is more resilient. Better informed decision making by addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation.	Granite City Growing would identify goals and objectives for growing food in the city while taking into consideration measures to adapt to climate change.
2.	Europe 2020	EU agenda for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.	Granite City Growing should identify measures to help achieve emissions reduction in the development of new growing sites.
3.	2030 Climate Framework	Sets three key targets for the year 2030: At least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels); At least 27% share for renewable energy; At least 27% improvement in energy efficiency.	Granite City Growing should align with mitigation targets in the development of new growing sites.
4.	EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020	Focuses on creating growth and jobs, tackling climate change and energy dependence, reducing poverty and social exclusion.	Granite City Growing will identify measures and opportunities for food growing which will help to achieve these goals including; community cohesion, tackling food poverty, skills development and job opportunities, access to affordable food.

5.	EU Strategy for Sustainable Development (2006)	Overall aim is to identify and develop actions to enable the EU to achieve a continuous long-term improvement in quality of life through the creation of sustainable communities. Includes key objectives in environmental protection, social equity & cohesion and economic prosperity.	Granite City Growing should continuously encourage sustainable ways of growing food.
<b>Air</b>			
6.	Ambient Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC	Sets legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major air pollutants that impact public health such as particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2). Transposed through the Air Quality Standards (Scotland) Regulations 2010.	Granite City Growing should recognise that the development of new food growing site could have an impact on air quality and promotes measures that would improve air quality.
<b>Nature Conservation</b>			
7.	The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC	Aims to protect biodiversity, protecting and conserving habitats and species. Gives basis to classify Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).	Granite City Growing should comply with the Directive and ensure the protection of species and habitats in the selection and development of food growing sites.
8.	The Birds Directive 2009/147/EC	Aims to protect wild birds, their nests, eggs and their habitats. Including through the designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs).	Granite City Growing and the development of food growing sites should seek to protect wild birds, their nests, eggs and their habitats. It should consider the impact of fertiliser and pesticides in community growing on bird health and populations.
9.	European Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	Promotes conservation and biological diversity, aiming to reverse biodiversity loss and maintain and enhance ecosystems and their services.	Granite City Growing should support the conservation of species and habitats. It should prevent the spread of plant-based pests, disease and invasive non-native species.
10.	New Urban Agenda 2017	Sets a global standard for sustainable urban development. It includes the promotion of safe, accessible and green public spaces and the provision of basic services for citizens including nutritious food.	Granite City Growing should develop public spaces that communities can use for food growing. It should encourage access to healthy food.
<b>Water</b>			

11.	Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	Managing and protecting water bodies including rivers, lochs, transitional waters and groundwater. Safeguard the sustainable use of surface water; transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater. Supports the status of aquatic ecosystems and environments; Addresses groundwater pollution; flooding and droughts; river basin management planning.	Granite City Growing should consider sustainable use of water; and address the risk of run off from food growing sites polluting watercourses. Watercourses should be protected from the application of pesticides, organic waste and chemicals.
12.	Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	Requires Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent, assets and humans at risk in these areas and to undertake adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.	Granite City Growing should identify areas where potential flood risk exists and avoid creating new food growing sites there. It should also put in place measures to reduce localised flooding potential.
13.	Groundwater Directive (80/68/EEC)	Protection of groundwater from pollution and provides details on the criteria for assessing good groundwater status, the identification of significant and sustained upwards trends, and the starting points for trend reversal.	Granite City Growing should seek to protect groundwater from any pollution as a result of food growing.
14.	The Nitrates Directive 91/43/EEC	Reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources; and preventing further such pollution.	Granite City Growing should protect water courses from pollution caused by chemical use e.g. fertilisers or pesticides.
<b>Soil</b>			
15.	Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection	Preventing further soil degradation; safeguarding soil functions; responsible soil use and management; as well as restoring degraded soils to an acceptable level.	Granite City Growing should recognise the pressures of food growing on soils and dependence of many food systems on soil health. It should encourage the development of good soil structure.
<b>Noise</b>			
16.	Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC	Includes actions to prevent and reduce environmental noise where necessary and preserve environmental noise quality where it is good.	Granite City Growing should seek to support noise management objectives and manage and reduce noise from community food growing activities, such as use of power tools and strimmers.
<b>Waste</b>			
17.	The Landfill Directive 99/31/EC	Sets a framework for waste management and sets out	Granite City Growing should align with

		demanding targets to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste to landfill.	the Landfill Directive and ensure measures are put in place to reduce the amount of green waste and seek to explore options for composting green waste to divert waste from landfill.
18.	The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC	It sets out waste management principles for the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste. It requires that waste be managed without endangering human health and harming the environment. In particular without risk to water, air, soil, plants or animals; without causing a nuisance through noise or odours; and without adversely affecting the countryside or places of interest.	Granite City Growing should seek to manage waste from food growing sites in line with the waste hierarchy and support measures for on-site composting, waste reduction and reuse.
19.	Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive 2009/128/EC	Sets a framework for community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides.	Granite City Growing should seek to reduce the risks of pesticides on human health and the environment and encourage sustainable approaches to pest management.
<b>NATIONAL</b>			
<b>Overarching Planning Policy</b>			
20.	National Planning Framework (NPF) for Scotland 3	A natural resilient place is a key planning outcome for Scotland, helping to protect and enhance natural assets, facilitating their cultural use. In addition, outcomes include: a low carbon place – reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change, key planning outcomes for Scotland; and a successful sustainable place – supporting economic growth, regeneration and the creation of well-designed places.	Granite City Growing should take account of the spatial and environmental issues set out in the NPF3, to deliver benefits for communities, the economy and the wider environment; as well as support regeneration.
21.	Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006	Sets provision for the preparation, examination and publication of development plans. Defines duty of planning	Granite City Growing should align with planning requirements and seek to

		authorities to exercise development planning functions to contribute to sustainable development.	introduce new food growing sites at planning stages to contribute to sustainable development.
22.	Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) 2014	Identifies the Scottish Government's central purpose at sustainable economic growth. SPP sets out the main purpose and tasks of the planning system and national policies across all policy sectors.	Granite City Growing should align with the national policies set out in the SPP including a natural resilient place; a low carbon place; a successful, sustainable place; and a connected place.
<b>Cross-Sectoral</b>			
23.	Environmental Protection Act 1990	Provision for improved control of pollution.	Granite City Growing should consider the risks of food growing on sites where there may be contaminants in the soil to reduce risks to human health and the environment. This will be required where there is a change of land use. Site selection should avoid contaminated land or use appropriate site management techniques e.g. container systems, raised beds.
24.	Scotland's National Transport Strategy (2016)	Sets a high-level vision for transport. Has high level objectives to protect our environment and improve health; promote social inclusion, improve safety for people; improve integration and promote economic growth.	Granite City Growing should encourage the development of accessible food growing sites with links to green transport routes and the promotion of walking, cycling and public transport to reach food growing sites.
25.	Scotland's Economic Strategy (2015)	Identifies strategic priorities critical to achieving sustainable economic growth.	Granite City Growing should aim to develop skills in food growing which can increase employment opportunities.
26.	Choosing Our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy (2007)	Sets a framework for sustainable development. It highlights the need to build a sustainable future. It takes account of the link between safe and healthy food for health and wellbeing.	Granite City Growing should support outcomes for increased levels of health and wellbeing, with access to safe, healthy and affordable food choices.
27.	National Performance Framework 2018	Aims to focus on creating a more successful country with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through	Granite City Growing should seek to align with national indicators of visits to the

		increased wellbeing and sustainable and inclusive economic growth. It includes national outcomes of healthy and active; enjoying and enhancing the environment	outdoors, physical activity, journeys by active travel and food insecurity.
<b>Climate Change</b>			
28.	Climate Change Act 2008	Sets UK targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and makes provision to adapt to climate change.	Granite City Growing should seek measures to reducing the impact of food growing on the environment and consider measures to increase the resilience of local food production.
29.	Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Sets targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions of 80% by 2050; requires public bodies to contribute to the delivery of the statutory adaptation programme.	Granite City Growing should seek measures to reduce emissions and to adapt to climate change in the development of food growing sites; to support its delivery.
30.	Climate Ready Scotland: Scottish Climate Adaptation Plan	Addresses the impacts for Scotland identified in the UK Climate Risk Assessment. It sets out key objectives for Scotland under the themes of buildings and infrastructure, natural environment and society and economy.	Granite City Growing should seek to align with measures that support the delivery of Climate Ready Scotland.
31.	Climate Change Plan: The third report on Proposals and Policies.	Framework for our transition to a Low Carbon Scotland. It includes proposals and policies to reduce emissions from electricity generation, housing, transport, services, industry, forestry, peatlands, waste and agriculture.	Granite City Growing should seek to align with measures to reduce emissions from the development and maintenance of food growing sites.
<b>Air</b>			
32.	Air Quality (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016	Requires local authorities in Scotland to review air quality within their areas against objectives for several pollutants of concern for human health. Amend the Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000.	Granite City Growing should recognise the impact of climate change on air quality and align with the delivery of air quality management measures.
33.	Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Island (2007)	Sets air quality standards and objectives for protecting human health and the environment to be included in regulations for the purposes of Local Air Quality Management. relating to concentrations of, amongst others, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and particulates.	Granite City Growing should recognise the impact of climate change on air quality and align with the delivery of air quality management measures.
34.	Cleaner Air for Scotland – The Road to a Healthier Future 2015	Sets out the Scottish Government’s proposals for delivering further improvements to air quality and climate change.	Granite City Growing should align with the delivery of air quality management

			measures.
<b>Heritage, Design and Regeneration</b>			
35.	Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014	Sets out the functions for Historic Environment Scotland in investigating, caring for and promoting Scotland's historic environment.	Granite City Growing should seek to promote and manage food growing sites in a sustainable way, without loss of character to historic environment.
36.	Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland 2014	Sets out a vision to that Scotland's environment is understood and valued, cared for and protected. The key outcome is to ensure that the cultural, social, environmental and economic value of Scotland's historic environment continues to make a strong contribution to the wellbeing of the nation and its people.	Granite City Growing should seek to promote and manage food growing sites in a sustainable way, without loss of character to historic environment.
37.	The Scottish Historic Environment Policy Statement (2016)	Provides a framework for strategic and operational policies for managing the historic environment. Including conservation and management of the historic environment for present and future generations.	Granite City Growing should seek to promote and manage food growing sites in a sustainable way, without loss of character to historic environment.
38.	The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1997	Prescribes the approach to be taken in planning for listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens.	Granite City Growing should ensure that listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens are not adversely affected by the development and maintenance of food growing sites. As well as adapting and maintaining the historic environment, without loss of character.
39.	Creating Places: a policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland	Outlines Scottish Government position on architecture and place. Considers themes of people and communities; sustainable development; design economic advantages; health outcomes, culture and identity; and landscape and the natural environment.	Granite City Growing should seek to support the development of sustainable places and the protection of existing places.
40.	Designing Streets: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2010)	A policy statement from street designs with emphasis of guidance on street design towards place-making. It is used for the design, construction, adoption and maintenance of new streets and it is applicable to new streets subject to	Granite City Growing should consider policy guidance in the development of any food growing initiatives in city streets.

		redesign.	
41.	Achieving a Sustainable Future: Regeneration Strategy	Provides the Scottish Government's vision for regeneration and outlines the economic, physical and social outcomes that are required to deliver sustainable communities, recognising that some places need additional support and interventions to become sustainable.	Granite City Growing should support regeneration priorities through the promotion and development of community food growing opportunities, in support of health outcomes.
42.	People and Place: Regeneration Policy Statement	Sets out a forward looking strategic framework and priorities for regeneration in Scotland encouraging proactive and integrated approaches. This includes transforming places for the benefit of people who live and work around the area, such a jobs, skills and employability. Realising opportunities from individual locations.	Granite City Growing should consider opportunities for local food growing, as part of city regeneration plans.
<b>Landscape and Soil</b>			
43.	The Scottish Soil Framework (2009)	Promotes the sustainable management and protection of soils, consistent with the economic, social and environmental needs of Scotland. Seeks to integrate soil protection into new and existing policies.	Granite City Growing should recognise the pressures on soil quality including degradation, erosion and compaction. It should promote the protection and sustainable management of soils.
44.	Getting the best from our land; A land use Strategy for Scotland 2016 - 2021	Reflects the varied nature of the interactions between different interests and land use. Working with nature to contribute more to Scotland's prosperity, and responsible stewardship of natural resources, ensure urban and rural communities are better connected to the land. It sets out principles for sustainable land use.	Granite City Growing seeks to involve communities in use of land for food growing and become better connected with the land. It should consider principles for sustainable land use, provide accessible spaces, involve local people in decisions about land for community food growing and consider opportunities for vacant or derelict land.
45.	SNH Landscape Policy Framework Policy Statement 05/01	Sets out SNHs approach for Scotland's landscape. It includes a priority to work with others to regenerate landscapes that have deteriorated as a result of human activities, and damaged environments close to where people live. It recognises that Scotland's landscapes will continue to change and this change can be positive and negative.	Granite City Growing will seek to safeguard and enhance the distinct identity, the diverse character and the special qualities of city landscapes.



46.	National Allotments Society Policies	Various policies covering social interaction, rent, plot sizes, devolved management, cultivation, plot sharing and community access and security.	Granite City Growing should seek to support these policies through allotment enhancement and the creation of new growing spaces.
<b>Homes, Population and Health</b>			
47.	Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015	A framework to increase community empowerment. Requires local authorities to produce a food growing strategy.	Granite City Growing will deliver a food growing strategy to meet the requirements of the act. This will identify land that could be used to grow food and how provision for community food growing could be increased.
48.	Good Places Better Health	Identifying what is needed to create places that nurture health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. This includes four health challenges facing children in Scotland: obesity, asthma, unintentional injury, and mental health and wellbeing.	Granite City Growing should encourage and seek to provide opportunities for healthy food choices.
49.	Equally Well	A public health strategy for Scotland which aims to tackle health inequalities.	Granite City Growing should seek to promote the development of accessible food growing spaces to support health improvements, especially in communities at risk of poor health.
50.	Scotland's National Food and Drink Policy: Good Food Nation 2014	Key point from the vision is that everyone in Scotland has ready access to healthy, affordable, nutritious food and sustainable food.	Granite City Growing should promote food growing and encourage access to fresh, seasonal, local and sustainable produce.
51.	Let's Make Scotland More Active: A Strategy for Physical Activity (2003)	Aims to increase and maintain the proportion of physically active people in Scotland setting out targets to 2022.	Granite City Growing should encourage physical activity levels through food growing programmes. Physical tasks such as digging and weeding can increase activity levels.
52.	Equalities Act 2010	Sets out a framework which prevents individuals from unfair treatment and promotes a more equal society.	Granite City Growing should ensure equality of access to food growing opportunities. It should encourage social inclusion.

53.	Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 & 2005	Ensures that discrimination law covers all the activities of the public sector; and requires public bodies to promote equality of opportunity for disabled people. Aims to end the discrimination that many disabled people face and gives disabled people rights in the areas of employment, education, access to goods, facilities and services and buying or renting land or property.	Granite City Growing should consider the accessibility, management and promotion of food growing sites, to ensure the needs of disabled people are met. Food growing opportunities should enable the independence of disabled people.
54.	Plenty – Food, farming and health in a new Scotland 2018	Supports community food initiatives, helping to provide access to resources such as land, as well as training and development opportunities.	Granite City Growing will support community food growing initiatives.
55.	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002	Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of people and the environment when using and storing chemicals.	Granite City Growing would support appropriate assessment of chemical use and encourage proper use, storage and disposal of chemicals.
<b>Nature Conservation</b>			
56.	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	Gives protection to listed plant and animal species from disturbance, injury intentional destruction or sale.	Granite City Growing should seek to protect and encourage pollinators and reduce the spread of invasive non-native species.
57.	The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	Sets out a series of measures, which are designed to conserve biodiversity and to protect and enhance the biological and geological natural heritage of Scotland. Places a general duty on all public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity.	Granite City Growing should align with other PPS to promote and protect biodiversity including protecting species, habitats and landscape from flooding, erosion, high temperatures, pests and disease and fragmentation.
58.	Scottish Biodiversity Strategy 2006	A strategy, which sets out a vision for the future health of Scotland's biodiversity to 2030. It highlights the need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halt the loss of biodiversity with targeted action to prevent loss of species and habitats.</li> <li>• Better planning, design and practice for landscapes and ecosystems; encourage more engagement with people in biodiversity conservation.</li> <li>• Take biodiversity into account in decision making.</li> </ul> Outcomes include improved health and quality of life for	Granite City Growing should support healthy ecosystems; make a positive contribution to nature and landscape; and promote opportunities for people for outdoor activity and learning.

		people in Scotland, through investment in the care of green space, nature and landscapes.	
59.	2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity	Supplements the 2004 Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and sets out Scotland's response to the Aichi targets set by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, placing consideration on ecosystem services. It aims to protect biodiversity on land and at sea and support healthier ecosystems.	Granite City Growing should seek to protect and conserve biodiversity; assist in reversing the decline of important species and habitats; and maximise habitat linkage.
60.	UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework	Identifies and builds on common conservation priorities across the UK.	Granite City Growing should seek to reduce pressures on biodiversity including habitat loss and pollution; and promote sustainable land use.
61.	The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended)  The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2007	These Regulations implement the Habitats and Wild Birds Directives. The Regulations provide for the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• designation and protection of 'European sites' (e.g. SACs);</li> <li>• protection of 'European protected species' from deliberate harm; and</li> <li>• adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European sites.</li> </ul> The Habitats Regulations only apply as far as the limit of territorial waters (12 nautical miles from baseline). The amended Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• simplifies the species protection regime to better reflect the Habitats Directive;</li> <li>• provides a clear legal basis for surveillance and monitoring of European protected species (EPS);</li> <li>• toughens the regime on trading EPS that are not native to the UK</li> </ul> ensures that the requirement to carry out appropriate assessments on water abstraction consents and land use plans is explicit.	Granite City Growing should not adversely affect protected species and habitats.

62.	Scottish Forestry Strategy 2006	Framework for well planned, well managed forests providing a wide range of benefits and recognising the role of forests in sustainable development. Improved health and wellbeing of people and communities, as well as access are key themes.	Granite City Growing should seek to increase tree coverage, where appropriate, with consideration for planting of fruit growing trees, as part of a food growing strategy and enhance engagement of the community in food growing trees.
63.	Scottish Forestry Strategy Implementation Plan 2015-18		
64.	Making the Links: Greenspace for a more successful and sustainable Scotland' (2009)	Sets out the key actions that are needed to ensure that greenspace delivers for people, communities and places across the whole of urban Scotland.	Granite City Growing should promote access to quality open space for food growing. Supporting improved health and wellbeing in disadvantaged communities.
65.	Pollinator Strategy for Scotland 2017 - 2027	Aims to address the causes of declines in populations, diversity and range of pollinator species; and to help them thrive in future.	Granite City Growing should support objectives to halt and reverse the decline in native pollinator populations.
66.	The Bees Act 1980	Control of pests and diseases affecting bees.	Granite City Growing should consider the protection of bees in relation to local food growing.
67.	The Bee Diseases and Pest Control (Scotland) Order 2007	Ensure the spread of serious bee diseases is minimised. Requires bee keepers to notify Scottish Ministers of the suspicion of the presence of notifiable diseases.	Granite City Growing should consider bee health in relation to local food growing.
<b>Water</b>			
68.	Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003	Ensures that all human activity that can have a harmful impact on water is controlled. Preventing further deterioration of, and protecting and enhancing, the status of aquatic ecosystems; promoting sustainable water use based on the long-term protection of available water resources; ensuring the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and preventing further pollution; contributing to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.	Granite City Growing should seek to reduce impacts on the water environment from pollution through use of fertiliser or pesticides, which may impair aquatic ecosystems in water courses including the River Dee and priority catchments. It should seek to reduce abstraction pressures on the River Dee. Further it should encourage water harvesting.
69.	The Water Environment (Miscellaneous)(Scotland) Regulations	Controls activities which could have an adverse effect on Scotland's water environment, including abstraction,	Granite City Growing should aim to control risks of pollution to the water

	2017.	impoundments, engineering, dredging, surface water drainage, and pollution, with the aim of protecting, and restoring, the water environment.	environment from run off or the storage or application of chemicals.
70.	Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	A framework in which organisations involved in flood risk management can co-ordinate actions to deliver sustainable and modern approaches to flood risk management. Requires the creation of flood risk management plans for all inland and coastal areas at risk of flooding, integrating their development and employment with existing River Basin Management Plans.	Granite City Growing should seek to investigate natural flood management measures to support drainage and reduce the risk of flooding from food growing sites. It should consider the risk of floodwater contaminating food growing sites, aligning with advice from the Food Standards Agency.
71.	SEPA (2009) Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland v3	To protect groundwater quality by minimising the risks posed by point and diffuse sources of pollution, and to maintain the groundwater resource by influencing the design of abstractions and developments, which could affect groundwater quantity.	Granite City Growing should consider the risks of diffuse pollution to groundwater, from the application of organic and inorganic fertilisers and pesticides to land.
72.	Water Environment (Groundwater and Priority Substances) (Scotland) Regulations 2009	To protect groundwater quality by minimising the risks posed by point and diffuse sources of pollution.	Granite City Growing should aim to control risks of pollution to the water environment from run off or the storage or application of chemicals.
73.	The Water Environment (Diffuse Pollution) (Scotland) Regulations 2008	Controls the impact of diffuse pollution on the water environment from rural land use activities. Includes use of fertilisers, keeping of livestock, land cultivation, drainage and the application of pesticides.	Granite City Growing should consider the risks of diffuse pollution to groundwater from the application of organic and inorganic fertilisers and pesticides to land. As well as from loss of nutrients on food growing sites. Small scale activities may have a cumulative impact.
<b>Waste</b>			
74.	Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010)	The plan outlines Scotland's key objectives in relation to the management of waste, including waste prevention, recycling and reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill on the journey to a zero waste Scotland. The plan proposes targets for Scotland's waste.	Granite City Growing should promote the recycling and on-site composting of green waste and measures that support the waste hierarchy in the development of food growing sites.
75.	Waste Management (Scotland) Licensing	Relates to the recovery, storage and treatment of waste to	Granite City Growing should seek

	Regulations 2011	avoid risks to water, air, soil, plants or animals; nuisance through noise or odours; or adverse effects on landscape or places of special interest.	necessary exemptions for any composting of green waste in support of these regulations.
<b>Noise</b>			
76.	The Environmental Noise Regulations (Scotland) 2006	Requires the preparation noise maps and action plans to manage and reduce environmental noise. They apply to environmental noise to which humans are exposed in built-up areas, in public parks or other quiet areas.	Granite City Growing should seek to support noise management objectives and manage and reduce noise from community food growing activities, such as use of power tools and strimmers.
<b>National Planning Advice &amp; Guidance</b>			
77.	PAN 60: Planning for Natural Heritage	Provides advice on how development and the planning system can contribute to the conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of Scotland's natural environment. Encourages developers and planning authorities to be positive and creative in addressing natural heritage issues.	Granite City Growing should seek to safeguard landscape character in the selection and development of food growing sites. It should protect biodiversity and look for opportunities to enhance biodiversity. It should work with natural processes and reduce habitat fragmentation.
78.	PAN 61 Planning & Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems	Describes how the planning system has a central co-ordinating role in getting SUDS accepted as a normal part of the development process. In implementing SUDS on the ground, planners are central in the development control process, from pre-application discussions through to decisions, in bringing together the parties and guiding them to solutions which can make a significant contribution to sustainable development.	Granite City Growing should consider the development of sustainable drainage systems (SUDs) at relevant food growing sites to manage run off from sites and reduce the risk of diffuse pollution.
79	PAN 63 Waste Management Planning	Ensures that development plans reflect the land use requirements for the delivery of an integrated network of waste management facilities. Provides a basis for more informed consideration of development proposals for waste management facilities.	Granite City Growing should consider composting to reduce green waste and abide by Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) regulations and waste legislation in the creation and use of compost.
80.	PAN 65: Planning and Open Space	Provides advice on the role of the planning system in protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and providing high quality new spaces. Sets out how local	Granite City Growing should support the development and protection of high quality open space through the

		authorities can prepare open space strategies and gives examples of good practice in providing, managing and maintaining open spaces.	development of areas of land for growing fruit, vegetables and other plants, either in individual allotments or as a community activity.
81.	PAN 69 Planning and Building Standards Advice on Flooding	Aims to safeguard land and development from the consequences of flooding. States that natural and man-made features which help reduce the impact of flooding or flood risk should be identified and appropriately protected from development.	Granite City Growing should support the measures to manage and reduce the impacts and risk of flooding and avoid the development of food growing sites in areas at risk of flooding.
82.	PAN 75 Planning for Transport	Creates greater awareness of how linkages between planning and transport can be managed for a safe, reliable and sustainable transport system. Provides good practice guidance which planning authorities, developers and others should carry out in their policy development, proposal assessment and project delivery; creates greater awareness of how linkages between planning and transport can be managed.	Granite City Growing should support accessibility in the selection and development of food growing sites. Parking policies for food growing sites should support location policies in the ALDP.
83.	PAN 77 Designing safer places	Aims to ensure that new development can be located and designed in a way that deters antisocial and criminal behaviour - as poorly designed surroundings can create feelings of hostility, anonymity and alienation and can have significant social, economic and environmental costs.	Granite City Growing should help to deliver safer spaces for people. This should consider where relevant boundary treatment, lighting, pedestrian access and where relevant parking.
84.	PAN 78 Inclusive Design	Seeks to deliver high standards of design in development and redevelopment projects; and widens the user group that an environment is designed for. Makes is a legal requirement to consider the needs of disabled people under the terms of Disability Discrimination legislation.	Granite City Growing should promote high standard of design. It should ensure food growing sites are accessible and functional for disabled and non-disabled people.
85.	PAN 83 Masterplanning	Encourages the design of high quality, sustainable environments and engagement of communities by applying agreed design principles. It includes identifying sensitive areas and site vegetation and designing in provision for open space.	Granite City Growing should support the master planning process with integration of food growing into development sites.
<b>REGIONAL</b>			
<b>Overarching Planning Policy</b>			
86.	Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic	Creates a long-term sustainable framework of settlements	Granite City Growing should seek to

	Development Plan (2014)	in a hierarchy, which focuses major development on the main settlements in the North East. Has an objective to be a city region which takes the lead in reducing the amount of carbon dioxide released into the air, adapts to the effects of climate change and limits the amount of non-renewable resources it uses. Has targets including: to avoid having to increase the amount of water Scottish Water are licensed to take from the River Dee; and to avoid developments on land which is at an unacceptable risk from coastal or river flooding.	reduce carbon dioxide emissions, put in place measures to adapt to climate change and limit the amount of non-renewable resources it uses.
<b>Cross-Sectoral</b>			
87.	Flood Risk Management Strategy North East Local Plan District	Aims to set short to long term ambition for flood risk management.	Granite City Growing should support measures to reduce and manage flood risk in new and developed food growing sites.
88.	North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan	Contains the statutory duties that Aberdeen City will be required to undertake during Cycle 1 of the plan. The obligations will start on 1 July 2016. The Plan has been produced in partnership with SEPA, Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water to meet the requirement of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.	Granite City Growing should consider current and future flood risk in the development and management of food growing sites. It should seek to investigate natural flood management measures to support drainage and reduce the risk of flooding from food growing sites. It should consider the risk of floodwater contaminating food growing sites, aligning with advice from the Food Standards Agency.
89.	Regional Economic Strategy- securing the Future of the North East Economy	A strategy for the north east of Scotland economy. It has a vision to capitalise on natural heritage and quality of life, broaden economic base by growing and developing food and drink, agriculture and fishing, tourism, life sciences, business, financial and professional services, creative industries and new energy technologies.	Granite City Growing should seek to support measures for job creation; skills development and reutilisation; and market diversification.
90.	Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) 2013-2035	Sets the long-term framework to improve the transport network in the North East, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• integrating land use and transportation; and</li> </ul>	Granite City Growing should contribute to the goals of the RTS by reducing the proportion of use of cars to food growing



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• creating a long-term sustainable framework.</li> </ul>	sites and increasing options for active travel.
91.	Strategy for an Active Aberdeen 2016-2020	Increasing the number of people who participate in sport and physical activity. meeting the needs of the entire community.	Granite City Growing should promote food growing for physical activity and help to address health inequalities.
<b>Nature Conservation</b>			
92.	North East Biodiversity Partnership Action Plan 2014-17	Ensures the protection and enhancement of the biodiversity in the north east through the development of effective, local, working partnerships. Ensure that national targets for species and habitats, as specified in the UK Action Plan, are translated into effective local action.	Granite City Growing should introduce measures to promote and protect biodiversity.
93.	Proposed Aberdeen Trees and Woodlands Strategy	The Proposed tree and Woodland Strategy aims to identify objectives and actions for the protection, expansion, management, promotion and evaluation of trees, forests and woodlands in urban and rural areas. This will include informing the location and design of new woodland and tree planting and their management.	Granite City Growing should support the aims of promoting and developing trees and woodlands as part of local food growing.
<b>LOCAL</b>			
94.	Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2016	<p>It sets the framework for development in the city in the next 25 years consistent with the SDP. It includes specific policies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NE1 Green Space Network protecting, promoting and enhancing connectivity in the city.</li> <li>- NE3 Urban Green space, preventing development in these areas</li> <li>- NE4 Open space, outlining the provision of open space in new development.</li> <li>- NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality and it further supported by newly adopted Supplementary Guidance (SG).</li> </ul> <p>R2 – degraded and contaminated land</p>	Granite City Growing should support and promote the planning objectives under the ALDP and seek to integrate food growing in development policy.

95.	Aberdeen Local Transport Strategy 2016 - 2021	Take full account of the environment, social and economic implications of transport. It aims to build infrastructure which is more sustainable, climate resilient and adapted to our environment, ecological conditions and landscape setting". It includes objectives: to ensure that the transport network is as resilient as possible in case of flooding from extreme weather conditions; and to contribute to Aberdeen's carbon emissions targets and develop climate resilient infrastructure.	Granite City Growing seeks to support resilience of the city transport network.
96.	Air Quality Action Plan 2011	To reduce nitrogen dioxide within the 3 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in Aberdeen, and reduce particulates (PM <sub>10</sub> ) through short, medium and long-term infrastructure and other projects.	Granite City Growing should support the implementation of actions proposed in the Action Plan, in order to improve air quality with the AQMA.
97.	Aberdeen Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2020 and Locality Plans	The Community Planning Aberdeen, Local Outcome Improvement Plan was approved in acknowledges climate change and extreme weather events also pose a significant risk of harm to our communities and seeks to develop community and business resilience as well as enhancing ability to respond. It includes safe and resilient communities - Aberdeen is a place where people are safe from harm. The locality plans set out the priority outcomes for improvement of the localities - Torry/ Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings park, Northfield, Heathryfold/ Seaton, Tillydrone, Woodside. The plans detail priorities for people, place, economy and technology and improvement measures.	Granite City Growing should support the development of community and business resilience. As well as adaptation measures that increase food security safety. It should seek to support priorities for the 3 city locality plans.
98.	Aberdeen City Nature Conservation Strategy 2010-2015	The strategy covers the period 2010-2015 and is now currently an interim strategy while work takes place on updating it. Objectives are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, preserve and enhance Aberdeen's natural heritage</li> <li>• Sustainably manage Aberdeen's natural heritage.</li> <li>• Involve communities in caring for Aberdeen's natural heritage.</li> <li>• Promote a greater understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of Aberdeen's natural heritage.</li> </ul>	Granite City Growing should seek to develop food systems and encourage pollinators that enhance biodiversity.

99.	Open Space Audit and Strategy 2011-2016	This Strategy sets out a strategic vision, aims and objectives for open space in Aberdeen. Its main purpose is to ensure the city has enough accessible and good quality open space. The Strategy is based on the findings of the Aberdeen Open Space Audit 2010. Its vision is a network of attractive, appealing, well connected community places. Places for everyone to enjoy for health, learning, recreation and nature.	Granite City Growing should support the aims of the open space strategy and maximise opportunities to increase the amount of allotment space and food growing areas. This seeks to enhance and create green space, improve their quality, increase access, improve and recognise their value.
100.	Aberdeen City Core Paths Plan	Core Paths Plans are required under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 for each council area sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area. They set out the core paths network. The Plans are developed in consultation with local communities, user groups, land managers and other stakeholders. Drafts are expected in 2008. Their aims include: connecting residential areas, green-spaces, amenities, other attractions and the wider countryside; forming a basic, safe framework for outdoor recreation and sustainable and active travel;	Granite City Growing should align with promoting resilient path networks.
101.	Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy 2012-2017	Outlines the strategy approach to local housing including developing a framework for a regeneration strategy for the city.	Granite City Growing should give due consideration to regeneration priorities.
102.	Aberdeen Landscape Strategy 2002 and Proposed Landscape Strategy 2018	Landscape planning approach for Aberdeen.	Granite City Growing should take account of landscape character in the selection and development of new growing sites.
103.	Aberdeen Contaminated Land Strategy (2001)	The Contaminated Land Strategy sets out how local authorities deal with potentially contaminated land.	Granite City Growing should avoid development actions that contaminate land or are sited on contaminated land.
104.	Powering Aberdeen – Aberdeen’s Sustainable Energy Action Plan	City wide plan with targets to reduce emissions. It aims to increase energy efficiency measures and promote a transition to a low carbon economy.	Granite City Growing should align with the mitigation measures set out in Powering Aberdeen.
105.	Proposed Aberdeen Adapts – climate adaptation strategy	Has a goal for food security. It aims to reduce climate risks to food security and support food growing, recognising that a longer growing season may increase opportunities for local food growing.	Granite City Growing will develop food growing areas that will increase the potential for food security. It should consider impacts of soil degradation, erosion and salinisation in the selection

			of food growing sites.
106.	Aberdeen City Council Building Performance Policy	Aims to take a strategic view ensuring new and refurbished buildings are future proofed and designed to reduce the financial liability of council building stock.	Granite City Growing should seek to consider the long-term impacts of options to develop new growing sites e.g. vertical growing on city buildings.
107.	City Centre Masterplan & other masterplans	Regeneration of the city centre, providing the capacity, quality and reliability of infrastructure required by businesses and residents and utilising resources responsibly. Other masterplans exist for Local Development Plan opportunity sites.	Granite City Growing should seek to support the master planning process in development of food growing sites.
108.	Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan	A transport masterplan which aims to increase sustainable transport options in the city centre.	Granite City Growing should seek to support the resilience of sustainable transport options.
109.	Aberdeen City Waste Strategy (2014 – 2025)	Sets recycling targets for the city which includes green waste, supports development of a circular economy, aligning with the requirements of the waste hierarchy whilst acknowledging that waste is a resource and not a problem.	Granite City Growing should seek to manage waste from food growing sites in line with the waste hierarchy and support measures for on site composting, waste reduction and reuse.



## Appendix 9.2 Baseline Data - Appendix 7.2: Baseline

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Natural Resources Consumption (footprint)	<p>Aberdeen City's annual global footprint:</p> <p>Total: 5.73gha/per</p> <p>Energy and Consumption: 1.14gha (20%)</p> <p>Food and Drink 1.07gha/p(19%)</p> <p>Land Travel: 0.81ha/p (14%)</p> <p>Other: 2.7gha/p (48%)</p> <p>Scotland's annual global footprint: Total: 5.37gha/per</p>	<p>Aberdeenshire's annual global footprint - in global hectares per person (gha/p)</p> <p>Total: 5.60gha/p</p> <p>Energy Consumption: 1.09gha/p (19%)</p> <p>Food and drink: 1.11gha/p (20%)</p> <p>Land Travel: 0.74ha/p (13%)</p> <p>Other (Government, capital investment, holiday activities, consumables, services and sports), 2.7gha/p (48%)</p>	<p>Both Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City's global footprint is higher than the Scottish average.</p> <p>The main contributors to the NE's global footprint are energy consumption, food and drink and land travel.</p> <p>Compared to Scotland's footprint, both the City and the shire have higher footprints</p>	<p>Energy is the largest contributor to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire's Global Footprint and indicates high energy consumption associated with domestic fuels like gas, oil, electricity and other fuels.</p> <p>The North East's Global Footprint Project identified transport, the Built Environment and Energy as areas in which global footprint reductions could be achieved.</p>	<p>North East Global Footprint Project <a href="http://www.scotlandsfootprint.org/tthe-project/north-east.php">http://www.scotlandsfootprint.org/tthe-project/north-east.php</a></p> <p>Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council (2006) Scotland's Global Footprint Project – Reduction Report for North East Scotland Global Footprint Project, Joint Global Footprint Co-ordinator, Aberdeen City Council</p>
Total CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kt)	<p>Aberdeen City</p> <p>2012 - 1,653.9</p> <p>2013 - 1,569.7</p> <p>2014 - 1,405.1</p> <p>2015 - 1,335.2</p>	<p>Aberdeenshire</p> <p>2012 - 2,095.6</p> <p>2013 - 1,963.3</p> <p>2014 - 1,800.1</p> <p>2015 - 1,792.1</p>	<p>Falling in both the City and the Shire</p>	<p>It appears that issues are improving</p>	<p>Department for Business, Energy &amp; Industrial Strategy data published on 29 June 2017 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</a> Accessed 8/1/18</p>

Per Capita CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2012 - 7.4 2013 - 6.9 2014 - 6.1 2015 - 5.8	Aberdeenshire 2012 - 8.2 2013 - 7.6 2014 - 6.9 2015 - 6.8	Falling in both the City and the Shire	It appears that issues are improving	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy data published on 29 June 2017 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</a> Accessed 8/1/18
Industry and Commercial CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2012 - 798.0 2013 - 741.8 2014 - 656.6 2015 - 601.3	Aberdeenshire 2012 - 665.0 2013 - 653.7 2014 - 620.2 2015 - 615.3	Falling in both the City and the Shire	It appears that issues are improving	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy data published on 29 June 2017 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</a> Accessed 8/1/18
Domestic CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2012 - 528.0 2013 - 506.6 2014 - 423.6 2015 - 406.1	Aberdeenshire 2012 - 722.1 2013 - 693.1 2014 - 596.7 2015 - 562.1	Falling in both the City and the Shire	It appears that issues are improving	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy data published on 29 June 2017 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</a> ( Accessed 8/1/18
Road Transport CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2012 - 319.8 2013 - 317.5 2014 - 322.6 2015 - 324.9	Aberdeenshire 2012 - 599.7 2013 - 602.1 2014 - 618.1 2015 - 628.9	There appears to be a slight improvement in Road Transport emissions	Increased travel by accounts for this	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy data published on 29 June 2017 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</a> Accessed 8/1/18
LULUCF* CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2012 - 8.1 2013 - 3.8 2014 - 2.3 2015 - 2.8	Aberdeenshire 2012 - 108.9 2013 - 14.4 2014 - -34.9 2015 - -14.2	The rate of fall in LULUCF CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in variable for both the Shire and the City as is the case for all Scotland	This depends on the way we use our land and Forest resources	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy data published on 29 June 2017 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015</a> Accessed 8/1/18

Potential Vulnerable Area (PVA) to flooding No of Area	23 PVAs in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire		No trend	PVA areas and issues have to be taken into account and allocating land for development and imposing conditions on development.	SEPA (2016) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – Flood Risk Management Strategy <a href="http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html">http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html</a> A second set of Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans will be published in December 2021 and June 2022 respectively
Estimated Weighted Annual Average damages within PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011- £22,390,000.00 • 2016 17,6000,000.00	Aberdeenshire • 2011 - £17,080,000.00 • 2016 £8,714,230.00	Worsening	Cost implication for developing areas at risk from flooding must be taken into account and allocating land for development and imposing conditions on development.	SEPA (2016) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – Flood Risk Management Strategy <a href="http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html">http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html</a> A second set of Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans will be published in December 2021 and June 2022 respectively
Damage by Flood likelihood	Aberdeen City (Dee, Don, Denmore Catchments) • 2016 £64.5m-£537m	Aberdeenshire (Aggregate of all areas) • 2016 £52.7m - £273.25m	Worsening	This range takes into account residential, non-residential, roads, vehicles and agriculture	SEPA (2016) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – Flood Risk Management Strategy <a href="http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html">http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html</a> A second set of Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans will be published in December 2021 and June 2022 respectively



Total Area (Km 2) in PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011 – 344 • 2016 - 126	Aberdeenshire • 2011- 529	the value appears to be lower but this reflects actual figures than an earlier estimate	It has implications for land allocation and development.	SEPA (2016) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – Flood Risk Management Strategy <a href="http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html">http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html</a>
Residential Properties in PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011- 1,943 • 2016 –10,440	Aberdeenshire • 2011- 1820 2016 -4,540	Worsening	It has implications for land allocation and development.	SEPA (2016) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – Flood Risk Management Strategy <a href="http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html">http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html</a> A second set of Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans will be published in December 2021 and June 2022 respectively
Non-Residential Properties in PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011- 375 • 2016- 2,510 •	Aberdeenshire • 2011- 272 • 2011 -1,380	Worsening	It has implications for land allocation and development.	SEPA (2016) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – Flood Risk Management Strategy <a href="http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html">http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/norh-east.html</a> A second set of Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans will be published in December 2021 and June 2022 respectively

**Appendix 7.2.2: SEA Topic - Air**

<b>SEA Indicator</b>	<b>Quantified information</b>	<b>Comparators and targets</b>	<b>Trends</b>	<b>Issues/constraints</b>	<b>Data source(s)</b>
Annual Mean Concentration of No <sub>2</sub>	<b>Aberdeen City</b> 2013:12.9-70.4 2014:10.5-63.8 2015:10.0-58.2 2016: 09.6-54.1	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013: 8:5 -33.1 2014:11.3-38.0 2015: 9.4–35.4 2016: None  <b>Objective</b> 40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Out of measurements at 62 monitoring stations, the EU objective has been breached in 23 locations in 2013, 22 locations in 2014, 19 locations in 2015 and 18 locations in 2016. The locations with highest readings include Market Street in 2013 and 2016, Great Northern Road in 2014 and Union Street in 2015. The Objective is not breached in Aberdeenshire	Traffic mainly	2017 Air Quality Annual Progress Report (APR) for Aberdeen City Council  2016 Air Quality Annual Progress Report (APR) for Aberdeenshire Council
Annual Mean Concentration of PM <sub>10</sub>	<b>Aberdeen City</b> 2013:13-26 2014:15-26 2015:12-20 2016:12-16	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> None  <b>Objective</b> 18µg/m <sup>3</sup>	There were exceedances in 4 out of 6 stations in 2013; 3 out of 6 in 2014, 2 out of 6 in 2015 and none in 2016.	Traffic, construction	2017 Air Quality Annual Progress Report (APR) for Aberdeen City Council
Annual Mean Concentration of PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Aberdeen City 2013:9 2014: 10 2015: 8-11 2016:5-7	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> None  <b>Objective</b> 10µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Apart from 2015 when 2 stations experienced exceedances, there has not been any other exceedances		2017 Air Quality Annual Progress Report (APR) for Aberdeen City Council

**Appendix 7.2.3: SEA Topic - Water**

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Overall Status of surface water <b>High</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 3 2016 - 3 2021 – 3 2027 – 3	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 – 18 2016 - 14 2021 - 18 2027 - 18	Almost at the same level by 2027	Modifications to beds, banks and shores; rural diffuse pollution; man-made barriers to fish migration; waste water (sewerage) discharges; public water supply; and industrial use can activities; urban and rural land use	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of surface water <b>Good</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 2 2016 - 3 2021 – 6 2027 – 12	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 – 71 2016 - 84 2021 - 95 2027 - 171	Increasing	Same as above	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of surface water <b>Moderate</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 5 2016 - 4 2021 – 4 2027 – 3	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 – 51 2016 - 45 2021 - 40 2027 - 19	Increasing	Same as above	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of surface water <b>Poor</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 4 2016 - 4 2021 – 4 2027 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 – 37 2016 - 34 2021 - 29 2027 - 2	The following water bodies in Aberdeen City are poor. Den Burn, Elrick Burn - d/s, Newmachar WWTP, Black Burn and Leuchar Burn	The following water bodies in Aberdeenshire are poor. Burn of Brydock, Rosy Burn, Burn of King Edward River Isla - source to	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18

				<p>Keith, River Bogie -  Culdrain to Huntly,  Burn of Auchmacoy,  River Ugie -  North/South confl to  tidal limit, Crooko  Burn, North Ugie  Water - upper  catchment, South Ugie  Water - Stuartfield to  Longside, Burn of  Ludquharn  Quhomery Burn, Burn  of Keithfield/ Raxton  Burn  Ebrie Burn, Youlie  Burn / Bronie Burn,  Findon Burn  Burn of Muchalls,  Carron Water, Bervie  Water - upper  catchment, Elrick Burn  - d/s Newmachar  WWTP, Elrick Burn -  u/s Newmachar  WWTP  Black Burn, Newmill  Burn, Tuach Burn /  Tillakae Burn, Shevock  Burn, Esset Burn,  Leuchar Burn  Water of Feugh - lower  catchment, Beltie  Burn, Dess Burn -  upper stretch, River  Muick - Allt an Dubh  Loch, Loch of  Strathbeg, Loch of  Skene, and Loch</p>	
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				Kinord	
Overall Status of surface water <b>Bad</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 4 2016 = 4 2021 – 2 2027 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 – 33 2016 - 33 2021 - 28 2027 - 0	The following water bodies in Aberdeen are bad South Mundurno Burn, River Dee - Peterculter to tidal limit, Gormack Burn and Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn	The following water bodies in Aberdeenshire are bad. Water of Philorth / Water of Tyrie, Burn of Savocho/ Logie Burn, Black Water - u/s St Fergus, Burn of Fortrie, Idoch Water, Burn of Turriff, Keithny Burn / Forgue Burn, Shiel Burn Slains Burn, Water of Cruden - u/s Hatton WWTP, Laeca Burn Forvie Burn, Tarty Burn, Foveran Burn, South Mundurno Burn, Faichfield Burn, Greenspeck Burn, Crichie Burn, Leeches Burn Water of Fedderate, South Ugie Water - New Deer to Stuartfield, Burn of Elsick, Forthie Water, Bervie Water - lower catchment, River Dee - Peterculter to tidal limit, Gormack Burn, Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn, Kinnernie Burn, Bo Burn, Dess Burn / Lumphanan Burn,	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18

				Tarland Burn and Cowie Burn	
Overall water chemistry - Pass	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 33	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 209	Increasing	Same as above	Same as above
Overall water chemistry - fail	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 1	In Aberdeenshire only Potterton Burn has failed this test. In Aberdeen City no water body has failed this test.	Same as above	Same as above
Overall water ecology- High	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 3	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 14		Same as above	Same as above
Overall water ecology - Good	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 1	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 83		Same as above	Same as above
Overall water ecology - Moderate	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 4	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 46		Same as above	Same as above
Overall water ecology - Bad	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 4	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 33	In Aberdeenshire the following water bodies are bad. Kessock Burn, Water of Philorth / Water of Tyrie, Burn of Savoch/ Logie Burn, Black Water - u/s St Fergus, Burn of Fortrie, Idoch Water, Burn of Turriff, Keithny Burn / Fogue Burn, Shiel Burn, Slains Burn, Water of Cruden - u/s Hatton WWTP, Laeca Burn,	The following water bodies are bad in the City. South Mundurno Burn, River Dee , Peterculter to tidal limit, Gormack Burn and Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn	

			<p>Forvie Burn, Tarty Burn, Foveran Burn          South Mundurno Burn, Faichfield Burn, Greenspeck Burn          Crichie Burn, Leeches Burn, Water of Fedderate, South Ugie Water - New Deer to Stuartfield, Burn of Elsick, Forthie Water, Bervie Water - lower catchment, River Dee - Peterculter to tidal limit, Gormack Burn, Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn, Kinnernie Burn, Bo Burn, Dess Burn / Lumphanan Burn, Tarland Burn and Cowie Burn</p>		
Overall water ecology - Poor	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 6	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 34	<p>In Aberdeenshire the following water bodies are poor.          Burn of Brydock, Rosy Burn, Burn of King Edward, River Isla - source to Keith, River Bogie - Culdrain to Huntly, Burn of Auchmacoy, River Ugie - North/South confl to tidal limit          Crooko Burn, North Ugie Water - upper catchment, South Ugie Water - Stuartfield to Longside, Burn of Ludquharn          Quhomery Burn, Burn of Keithfield/ Raxton Burn, Ebrie Burn, Youlie Burn / Bronie Burn, Findon Burn</p>	<p>In the City the following water bodies are poor.          Den Burn, Elrick Burn - d/s Newmachar WWTP, Black Burn, Leuchar Burn, Dee (Aberdeen) Estuary and Don Estuary to Souter Head (Aberdeen)</p>	

			Burn of Muchalls, Carron Water, Bervie Water - upper catchment, Elrick Burn - d/s Newmachar WWTP, Elrick Burn - u/s Newmachar WWTP, Black Burn, Newmill Burn, Tuach Burn / Tillakae Burn, Shevock Burn, Esset Burn, Leuchar Burn, Water of Feugh - lower catchment, Beltie Burn, Dess Burn - upper stretch, River Muick - Allt an Dubh Loch, Loch of Strathbeg. Loch of Skene and Loch Kinord		
Overall water hydrology- High	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 10	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 161	None	None	Same as above
Overall water hydrology - Good	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 2	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 23	None	None	Same as above
Overall water hydrology - Moderate	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 1	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 8	None	None	Same as above
Overall water hydrology - Bad	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0	None	None	Same as above
Overall water hydrology - Poor	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0	None	None	Same as above



Overall Status of ground water <b>High</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 - 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0		Modifications to beds, banks and shores; rural diffuse pollution; man-made barriers to fish migration; waste water (sewerage) discharges; public water supply; and industrial use can activities; urban and rural land use	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of ground water <b>Good</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 - 8	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 37	None	As above	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of ground water <b>Moderate</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 - 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0	None	As above	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of ground water <b>Poor</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 - 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 9	In Aberdeenshire, the following water bodies are poor: Cullen, St Cyrus, Montrose, Stonehaven, Drumlithie, Laurencekirk, Ellon, North Esk Sand and Gravel, South Esk Valley and Montrose Coastal.		<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of ground water <b>Bad</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 - 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0	None	As above	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a>

					Accessed 9/1/18
Overall water - ground water ecology - Bad	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 4	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 33	In Aberdeenshire the following water bodies are bad. Kessock Burn, Water of Philorth / Water of Tyrie, Burn of Savoch/ Logie Burn, Black Water - u/s St Fergus, Burn of Fortrie, Idoch Water, Burn of Turriff, Keithny Burn / Forgue Burn, Shiel Burn, Slains Burn, Water of Cruden - u/s Hatton WWTP, Laeca Burn, Forvie Burn, Tarty Burn, Foveran Burn South Mundurno Burn, Faichfield Burn, Greenspeck Burn Crichie Burn, Leeches Burn, Water of Fedderate, South Ugie Water - New Deer to Stuartfield, Burn of Elsick, Forthie Water, Bervie Water - lower catchment, River Dee - Peterculter to tidal limit, Gormack Burn, Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn, Kinnernie Burn, Bo Burn, Dess Burn / Lumphanan Burn, Tarland Burn and Cowie Burn	The following water bodies are bad in the City. South Mundurno Burn, River Dee , Peterculter to tidal limit, Gormack Burn and Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn	Same as above

Overall water - ground water ecology - Poor	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 6	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 34	In Aberdeenshire the following water bodies are poor. Burn of Brydock, Rosy Burn, Burn of King Edward, River Isla - source to Keith, River Bogie - Culdrain to Huntly, Burn of Auchmacoy, River Ugie - North/South confl to tidal limit Crooko Burn, North Ugie Water - upper catchment, South Ugie Water - Stuartfield to Longside, Burn of Ludquharn Quhomery Burn, Burn of Keithfield/ Raxton Burn, Ebrie Burn, Youlie Burn / Bronie Burn, Findon Burn Burn of Muchalls, Carron Water, Bervie Water - upper catchment, Elrick Burn - d/s Newmachar WWTP, Elrick Burn - u/s Newmachar WWTP, Black Burn, Newmill Burn, Tuach Burn / Tillakae Burn, Shevock Burn, Esset Burn, Leuchar Burn, Water of Feugh - lower catchment, Beltie Burn, Dess Burn - upper stretch, River Muick - Allt an Dubh Loch, Loch of Strathbeg. Loch of Skene and Loch Kinord	In the City the following water bodies are poor. Den Burn, Elrick Burn - d/s Newmachar WWTP, Black Burn, Leuchar Burn, Dee (Aberdeen) Estuary and Don Estuary to Souter Head (Aberdeen)	
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Overall water - ground water hydrology- High	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 10	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 161	None	None	As above
Overall water - ground water hydrology - Good	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 2	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 23	None	None	As above
Overall water - ground water hydrology - Moderate	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 1	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 8	None	None	As above
Overall water - ground water hydrology - Bad	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0	None	None	As above
Overall water - ground water hydrology - Poor	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 - 0	None	None	As above
Water quality of surface water <b>Good</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 5 2021 – 8 2027 – 10	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 87 2021 - 111 2027 - 127	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Water quality of surface water <b>Moderate</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 7 2021 – 4 2027 – 3	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 52 2021 - 32 2027 - 19	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Water quality of surface water <b>Poor</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 1 2021 – 1 2027 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 9 2021 - 5 2027 - 2	None		<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a>

					Accessed 9/1/18
Water quality of surface water <b>Bad</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 0 2021 – 0 2027 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 0 2021 - 0 2027 - 0	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Physical conditions of surface water <b>High</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 3 2021 – 3 2027 – 3	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 44 2021 - 44 2027 - 44	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Physical conditions of surface water <b>Good</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 4 2021 – 8 2027 – 15	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 94 2021 - 102 2027 - 166	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Physical conditions of surface water <b>Moderate</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 7 2021 – 4 2027 – 3	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 52 2021 - 32 2027 - 19	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Physical conditions of surface water <b>Poor</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 2 2021 – 1 2027 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 27 2021 - 15 2027 - 0	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18

Physical conditions of surface water <b>Bad</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 4 2021 – 2 2027 – 0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 - 33 2021 - 28 2027 - 0	None	None	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/our-environment/water/scotland-s-freshwater/</a>  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Overall Status of ground water	<b>No data</b>	<b>No data</b>	None	None	<a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Water quality of ground water	<b>No data</b>	<b>No data</b>	None	None	<a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18
Physical conditions of ground water	<b>No data</b>	<b>No data</b>	None	None	<a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-environment-hub/</a> Accessed 9/1/18

#### Appendix 7.2.4: SEA Topic - Soil

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Land contamination	<b>Aberdeen</b> None	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 4 statutorily identified contaminated sites  no statutorily identified contaminated sites in Aberdeen  900 potentially contaminated sites	Legal regime is in place to deal with contaminated sites therefore this position should improve in the future.	Contaminated land places financial and technological constraints on development.	Aberdeen City Council Contaminated Land Strategy August 2016 (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/sites/aberdeen-cms/files/2017-12/Contaminated%20Land%20Inspection%20Strategy.pdf">https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/sites/aberdeen-cms/files/2017-12/Contaminated%20Land%20Inspection%20Strategy.pdf</a> Accessed 9 January 2018  Aberdeenshire Council (2011) <i>Public Register of Contaminated Land (online) Available at</i> <a href="http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17044/public-register-of-contaminated-land-index-nov11.pdf">http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/17044/public-register-of-contaminated-land-index-nov11.pdf</a> Accessed 9 January 2018  <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/land/contaminated-land/local-authority-contaminated-land-support/">https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/land/contaminated-land/local-authority-contaminated-land-support/</a>  Accessed 9 January 2018

Prime agricultural land (Grades 1 to 3.1)	<b>Aberdeen</b> contains very little prime agricultural land (300ha).	<b>Aberdeenshire's</b> prime agricultural land is concentrated in central and southern Aberdeenshire. Grade 2 near Laurencekirk (approx 950ha)	Climate change could increase the level of prime agricultural land in Scotland, however this may cause conflicts with sites of high biodiversity value, sensitive or designated sites.	Potential impacts of climate may constrain prime agricultural land available in the future.  Prime agricultural land may require further protection from development as demand for development rises and as land for food production rises.	Scottish Executive Statistics (2005): Economic Report on Scottish Agriculture <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/06/2290402/05121">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/06/2290402/05121</a>  Scottish Government (2009): The Scottish Soil Framework <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/05/20145602/6">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/05/20145602/6</a>
Waste generated	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 94117 2014 - 96130 2016 - 96123	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 131811 2014 - 131390 2016 - 131863	Falling and rising	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a>  <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Rate (kg/person)	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 414 2014 - 420 2016 - 418	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 527 2014 - 504 2016 - 503	Falling and rising	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a> <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Waste recycled	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 34956 2014 - 36742 2016 - 37498	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 47220 2014 - 52479 2016 - 57305	Falling and rising	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a>  <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Rate %	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 37.27 2014 - 37.14 2016 - 39.01	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 35.55 2014 - 35.82 2016 - 43.46		Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a>  <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-</a>



				increase	<a href="#">analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Waste landfilled	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 59051 2014 - 59034 2016 - 58021	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 84421 2014 - 78734 2016 - 72995	Falling	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a> <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Rate %	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 62.72 2014 - 62.74 2016 - 60.36	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 64.45 2014 - 64.05 2016 - 55.36	Falling and rising	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a> <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Waste other diversion	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 109 2014 - 354 2016 - 604	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 170 2014 - 177 2016 - 1564	Rising	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a> <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Rate %	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013 - 0.12 2014 - 0.12 2016 - 0.63 2016 - 1.19	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013 - 0 2014 - 0.13		Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to increase	<a href="http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/">www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste/</a> <a href="https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/">https://www.environment.gov.scot/data-analysis-applications/household-waste/</a> (Online) Accessed 9 January 2018
Peat soils	4 types of peaty soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blanket peat</li> <li>Peaty podsols</li> <li>Peaty gleys</li> <li>Organic soils rich in peat</li> </ul>	With respect of the rest of Scotland Aberdeen City and Shire seem to be at the fringes of peat soils	<b>Blanket peat</b> is moderately distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region <b>Peaty podzol</b> is densely distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region <b>Peaty gleys</b> is sparsely distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and	Because of the relationship between peat and climate change development must be directed away from peat soils	<a href="http://www.macaulay.ac.uk">www.macaulay.ac.uk</a>

			<p>with a few dots in the northeast of the region</p> <p><b>Organic soils rich in peat</b> is moderately distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region</p>		
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**Appendix 7.2.5: SEA Topic - Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna**

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/ constraints	Data source(s)
Land Over	<u>Aberdeenshire</u>				Land Use Change Issues and Opportunities for Aberdeenshire (January 2015) (online) Available at <a href="https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20170/aberdeenshire-land-use-strategy-pilot-overview-report-full.pdf">https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20170/aberdeenshire-land-use-strategy-pilot-overview-report-full.pdf</a> Accessed on 10 January 2018  Countryside Survey's Land Cover Map 2007 (LCM2007) (online) Available at <a href="https://www.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/LCM2007%20dataset%20documentation.pdf">https://www.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/LCM2007%20dataset%20documentation.pdf</a> Accessed on 10 January 2018
Broad leaf woodland (%)	2015 – 4 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Coniferous woodland (%)	2015 – 11 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Arable (%)	2015 – 26 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Improved grassland (%)	2015 – 23 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Rough and semi-natural grassland (%)	2015 – 8 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Water and wetland (%)	2015 – 3 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Heather moorland (%)	2015 – 14 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
Montane and bare land (%)	2015 – 9 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above

Urban and sub-urban (%)	2015 – 2 2018 - None	No comparators	No trend	None	Same as above
International natural heritage designations (Ramsar)	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 0 hectare - 0	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – 4 sites namely: Loch of Skene, Loch of Strathbeg, Muir of Dinnet and Ythan Estuary and Meikle Loch  Hectares – 1208.61	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
International natural heritage designations (Special Areas of Conservation (SAC))	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 1 hectare - 155	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 12 Hectares – 5545	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
International natural heritage designations (Special Protection Areas (SPA))	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 1 hectare – 60.51 <u>Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch (Extension)</u> (pSPA)	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 9 Hectares – 2227	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
National natural heritage designations - Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 4 hectare - 47	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 85 Hectares - 15,655	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
National natural heritage designations National Nature Reserve (NNR)	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 0 hectare - 0	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 7 Hectares - 1072	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
Local Nature Conservation	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 16	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 79	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure	Aberdeenshire Council internal data

Sites (LNCS)				on site	
Local natural heritage designations - Scottish Wildlife Trust Reserves	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 0 hectare – N/A	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 4 Hectares – N/A	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	Aberdeenshire Council internal data
Local natural heritage designations - RSPB Reserves	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 0 hectare – N/A	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 3 Hectares – N/A	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	Aberdeenshire Council internal data
Local natural heritage designations - Ancient Woodland	<u>Aberdeen City</u> site – 140 hectare – N/A	<u>Aberdeenshire</u> – sites – 2,584 Hectares - 45,000	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi, <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a> (Accessed 12 March 2013) Source: <u>SNH 2009</u>
Country Park	Aberdeen City 0	Aberdeenshire 4 sites	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
Area Covered by S.49 Agreement	Aberdeen City 0	Aberdeenshire 1 site	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
Local Nature Reserve	Aberdeen City 4 sites	Aberdeenshire 2 sites	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on site	SNHi accessed in July 2016 <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a>
Quality and availability of public open space in urban and rural areas	The Aberdeen City audit identified 3471 hectares of open space (not including private gardens or sites under 0.2 hectares). The quality of open space varies across the city with public parks and gardens rating the	Data for Aberdeenshire Councils Open Space Audit was not available.	The poorest quality parks and open spaces tend to be found within the regeneration priority areas. It is more difficult to provide open space within densely populated areas.	Development pressure to build on urban open spaces.  Revised standards for open space could encourage the development of more useful, publicly desirable and efficient types of open space, such as	Aberdeen City Council (2010) Open Space Audit

	highest and allotments and business amenity open space scoring the lowest rating			natural areas, green corridors, play spaces and allotments. This detail is likely to be taken forward through the local development plan and supplementary guidance.	
How “Protection of nature conservation sites” Policy is applied to Planning Applications	Aberdeen City o	<b>Aberdeenshire Applications Received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 20</li> </ul> <b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 16</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 4</li> </ul>	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
How “Protection of the wider biodiversity and geodiversity” Policy is applied to Planning Applications	<b>No data</b>	<b>Aberdeenshire Applications Received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 13</li> <li>• 0/12- 06/13- 241</li> </ul> <b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 9</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 209</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 4</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 33</li> </ul>	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
How “Protection and conservation of agricultural land” Policy is applied	<b>No data</b>	<b>Aberdeenshire Applications Received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 1</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 30</li> </ul>	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement

to Planning Applications		<b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 1</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 26</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 4</li> </ul>			
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**Appendix 7.2.6: SEA Topic - Human Health**

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and Trends	Issues/ constraints	Data source(s)	
Life expectancy at birth (years)	<p><b>Aberdeen</b></p> <p>Male</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002-2004 – 74.4</li> <li>• 2012-2014 – 76.8</li> <li>• 2014-2016 - 76.4</li> </ul> <p>Female</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002-2004 – 79.9</li> <li>• 2012-2014 – 80.1</li> <li>• 2014-2016 – 80.8</li> </ul>	<p><b>Aberdeenshire:</b></p> <p>Male</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002-2004 -79.4</li> <li>• 2012-2014 -76.3</li> <li>• 2014-2016 – 79.2</li> </ul> <p>Female</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002-2004 -80.8</li> <li>• 2012-2014 -82.3</li> <li>• 2014-2016 -82.4</li> </ul>	<p>Life expectancy is improving year on year in the City and the Shire compared with Scottish figures. The Shire is faring much better than the City. In both the City and the Shire female life expectancy is much higher</p>	<p>Increasing life expectancy has longer-term cost implications for local authorities for service provisions for ageing population.</p>	<p>National Records of Scotland (2018). <i>Life Expectancy for areas in Scotland</i>, [Online] Available at <a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/life-expectancy/life-expectancy-in-scottish-areas">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/life-expectancy/life-expectancy-in-scottish-areas</a></p> <p>(Accessed 10 January 2018)</p>
Life expectancy at 65 years	<p><b>Aberdeen</b></p> <p>male</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2012-2014 – 18.4</li> <li>• 2014-2016 – 16.9</li> </ul> <p>female</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2012-2014 – 20.2</li> <li>• 2014-2016 – 19.7</li> </ul>	<p><b>Aberdeenshire</b></p> <p>male</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2012-2014 –17.1</li> <li>• 2014-2016 - 18.3</li> </ul> <p>female</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2012-2014 – 18.5</li> <li>• 2014-2016 – 20.3</li> </ul>	<p>No trend</p>	<p>Healthy Life Expectancy represents the number of years that an individual can expect to live in good health.</p>	<p>Same as above</p>
Care home place for Adults	<p><b>Aberdeen</b></p> <p>2012 -2,036</p> <p>2015 - 1,769</p>	<p><b>Aberdeenshire</b></p> <p>2012- 2,061</p> <p>2015 - 2,129</p>	<p>No significant trend</p>	<p>Ageing population and disability will put pressure on resources</p>	<p>Aberdeen City Council (2016) Behind the Granite: Aberdeen Key Facts 2016 Available <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/tourism-visitor_attractions/tourists_visitors/statistics/BTG_2016_Care_and_Protection.aspx">http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/tourism-visitor_attractions/tourists_visitors/statistics/BTG_2016_Care_and_Protection.aspx</a> (Accessed 11 July 2016)</p>
Children looked after by LA	<p><b>Aberdeen</b></p> <p>2010 -690</p>	<p><b>Aberdeenshire</b></p> <p>2010 -496</p>	<p>Things are improving in the City and the Shire</p>	<p>Pressure on Government and LA</p>	<p>Same as above</p>



	2011- 642 2014 – 577	2011- 498 2014 – 403		resources	
Children on child protection register	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2009 - 180 2010 - 119 2011- 96 2014 - 73	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2009 - 81 2010 -51 2011- 68 2014 – 68	Things are improving in the City compared with the Shire where the situation improved in 2010 but rose again in 2011	Pressure on Government and LA resources	Same as above
All crimes recorded by police	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2013/14 - 15,390 2014/15- 13,912	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2013/14 - 6,836 2014/15- 5,681	Things are improving	Crime and fear of crime can affects people's quality of life	Same as above
Fuel poor	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2009-11- 23% 2012-14 - 29%	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2009-11 -35% 2012-14 - 39%	Things are worsening	Worsening economy, longer winters, higher fuel prices and falling value of the pounds worsens the situation	Same as above
Income support	<b>Aberdeen</b> Feb 2012 -4420 Feb 2015 - 1,770	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> Feb 2012 -2980 Feb 2015- 1,310	No trend collected	Pressure on Government and LA resources	Same as above
Unemployment benefit claimants  <b>Figures (%)</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b> 1/2015 - 1,635 (1.0) 1/2016 - 2,710 (1.7) 5/2016 – 3,405 (1.5) 11/2017 – 3,160 ((2.0)	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 1/2015 - 1,080 (0.7) 1/2016 - 2,025 (1.2) 5/2016 – 2,470 (1.5) 11/2017 1, 965 (1.2)	Rising in Aberdeen City and the Shire but begins to fall by November 2017. The figures are lower than Scottish average	The down turn in the oil market may be the cause of rising unemployment	<a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx#tabempunemp">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx#tabempunemp</a>  <a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/gor/2013265931/report.aspx#tabempoc">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/gor/2013265931/report.aspx#tabempoc</a>  <a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157406/printable.aspx">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157406/printable.aspx</a>  Accessed 10 January 2018
Most deprived data zones – SIMD in most	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2009 - 28 2012 – 22	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2009 - 5 2012 – 5	Falling	Pressure on Government and LA resources	Aberdeen City Council (2016) Behind the Granite

deprived 15%	2016 - No data	2016 - No data			Aberdeen City Key Facts 2016
Incapacity benefit	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2012– 4840 2015 – 230 2016 – 8,620	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2012 – 3810 2015 – 230 2016 – 7,040	Not clear  2016 is for ESA and incapacity benefits	Pressure on Government and LA resources	<a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/Imp/gor/2013265931/report.aspx#tabempoc">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/Imp/gor/2013265931/report.aspx#tabempoc</a> c Accessed 10 January 2018

### Appendix 7.2.7: SEA Topic - Population

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators targets	and Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Population Projection 2014-based	<b>Aberdeen</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015 - 231014</li> <li>• 2016 – 232613</li> <li>• 2017 - 234284</li> <li>• 2018 - 235986</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015 - 262578</li> <li>• 2016 – 264613</li> <li>• 2017 - 266756</li> <li>• 2018 – 268988</li> </ul>	The projections show increasing population in the City and the Shire	It has implication for increased provision of housing, industry and services to meet the needs of growing population and therefore the potential pressure on resources	National Records of Scotland (2018). Population Projections for Scottish Areas (2014-based) (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-projections/sub-national-population-projections/2014-based/detailed-tables">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-projections/sub-national-population-projections/2014-based/detailed-tables</a> Accessed on 10 January 2018
Household projections (based on 2014)	<b>Aberdeen</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2014 – 105287</li> <li>• 2019 - 109846</li> <li>• 2024 – 114880</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2014 – 108381</li> <li>• 2019 - 114391</li> <li>• 2024 – 120276</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	The projections show increasing households in the City and the Shire	Same as above	National Records of Scotland (2018). Household Projections for Scottish Areas (2014-based) (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/households/household-projections">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/households/household-projections</a> Accessed on 10 January 2018
Average Household size	<b>Aberdeen</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 – 2.08</li> <li>• 2014 – 2.09</li> <li>• 2015 – 2.10</li> <li>• 2016 – 2.07</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 – 2.38</li> <li>• 2014 – 2.38</li> <li>• 2015 – 2.37</li> <li>• 2016 - 2.35</li> </ul>	The projections show falling household size in the City and the Shire	Same as above	National Records of Scotland (2018). Household Projections for Scottish Areas (2014-based) (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/household-estimates/2016/house-est-16.pdf">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/household-estimates/2016/house-est-16.pdf</a> Accessed on 12 January 2018
Population Change	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2014 – 228,920 2015 – 230,350 2016 - 229,840  Change % change (2014-15)	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2014 – 260,530 2015 - 261,960 2016 - 262,190  <b>Change</b> % change (2014-15)	Both areas are doing better than the Scottish average change of 0.6%. Over 10 years the City has added 8,520 persons to its population compared to the Shire's	Components of population change by administrative area,	Aberdeen City (2016) Briefing Paper 2016/03: Population Report, Aberdeen City and Shire. Available at: <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=71874&amp;sID=3365">http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=71874&amp;sID=3365</a>

	0.6% % change (2015-16) -0.22% Change projected for 2019 (3.8%)	0.5% % change (2015-16) 0.09% % change projected for 2019 (4.1%)	20,660 addition		<a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/population-estimates/mid-year-2016/16mype-cahb.pdf">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/population-estimates/mid-year-2016/16mype-cahb.pdf</a> Accessed on 15 January 2018
Population Structure	<b>Aberdeen</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 00-15 -14.7%</li> <li>• 16-24 – 14.4%</li> <li>• 25-44 – 32.3%</li> <li>• 45-64 - 23.7%</li> <li>• 65+ - 14.9%</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 00-15 -18.7%</li> <li>• 16-24 – 9.7%</li> <li>• 25-44 – 25.1%</li> <li>• 45-64 – 28.8%</li> <li>• 65+ - 17.8%</li> </ul>	A trend exists if data is collected on the basis of male/female. But no trend exists for data collected on the basis of total persons before 2011.	A large proportion of working age population means large future pensionable and ageing population.	Aberdeen City (2016) Briefing Paper 2016/03: Population Report, Aberdeen City and Shire. Available at: <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=71874&amp;SID=3365">http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=71874&amp;SID=3365</a>
Population density	<b>Aberdeen</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area – 186 Km2</li> <li>• 2012 – 1187</li> <li>• 2015 – 1,242</li> <li>• 2016 – 1,250</li> <li>• 2017 – 1,259</li> <li>• 2018 – 1,268</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area – 6313km2</li> <li>• 2015 - 41</li> <li>• 2016 – 41.9</li> <li>• 2017 – 42.3</li> <li>• 2018 – 42.6</li> </ul>	The density is higher in the city than the shire Both densities have risen over time	There will be more pressure on resources provided in the City in one sense but less pressure on burning of fossil fuel on distance travelled in the City	Computed from National Records of Scotland (2018). Population Projections for Scottish Areas (2014-based) (Online) Available at <a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-projections/sub-national-population-projections/2014-based/detailed-tables">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-projections/sub-national-population-projections/2014-based/detailed-tables</a> Accessed on 10 January 2018

**Appendix 7.2.8: SEA Topic - Cultural Heritage**

<b>SEA Indicator</b>	<b>Quantified information</b>	<b>using this column for figures for Jan 2018</b>	<b>Trends</b>	<b>Issues/constraints</b>	<b>Data source(s)</b>
Listed buildings	<b>Aberdeen City</b> Listed buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013– 1,212</li> <li>• 2018 – 1220</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013– 3,715</li> <li>• 2018 – 3775</li> </ul>	Increasing	New development also has potential to maintain or enhance cultural sites	Aberdeen City and Shire LDPA (2009) <i>Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report</i>
Listed buildings at risk	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <b>Aberdeen City</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 – 26</li> <li>• 2018 – 29</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013– 228</li> <li>• 2018 – 268 (68 unlisted)</li> </ul>	Increasing	New development also has potential to maintain or enhance cultural sites	
Conservation Areas	<b>Aberdeen City</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 – 11</li> <li>• 2018 – 11</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 – 42</li> <li>• 2018 – 41 with another 14 proposed</li> </ul>	Decrease but forecast increase in short term	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	
Scheduled Monuments	<b>Aberdeen City</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 – 45</li> <li>• 2018 - 45</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 - 552</li> <li>• 2018 - 552</li> </ul>	No change	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	Historic Environment Scotland
Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record	<b>Aberdeen City</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 - 5,370</li> <li>• 2018 – 3,561</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 – 20,413</li> <li>• 2018 – 25,021</li> </ul>	falling	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service – Historic Environment Records Database

Gardens and designed landscapes	<b>Aberdeen City</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013 – 1</li> <li>• 2016 - 1</li> <li>• 2018 - 1</li> </ul>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2013- 27</li> <li>• 2016 - 34</li> <li>• 2018 - 34</li> </ul>	No change	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	Historic Environment Scotland
Battlefields	<b>Aberdeen City</b>  None	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> Alford 1645 Barra 1308 Fyvie 1644 Harlaw 1411	No change		<a href="http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2500:10:0">http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2500:10:0</a>

Appendix 7.2.9: SEA Topic - Landscape

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Landscape character	In Aberdeen there are 27 landscape character areas.	There are 42 landscape character areas in Aberdeenshire, including 9 within the CNP.  The four Landscape Character Assessments that cover the North East provides a brief overview of past land use practices and discusses potential land uses for existing landscapes.	No trend	The inappropriate scale and insensitive siting of future new development may adversely affect landscape characteristics (e.g. changing its landscape character type, not respecting local topography/contours). New development not fitting in with the landscape's capacity to absorb further developments (e.g. design, layout and sense of place) – need to promote suitable development capacity.	Scottish Natural Heritage (1997) <i>National programme of landscape character assessment: Banff and Buchan</i> , Review No 37. Scottish Natural Heritage (1996) <i>Cairngorms landscape assessment</i> , Review No 75. Scottish Natural Heritage (1996) <i>Landscape character assessment of Aberdeen</i> , Review No 80 Scottish Natural Heritage (1998) <i>South and Central Aberdeenshire: landscape character assessment</i> , Review No 102.
Landscape Devt in Energetica Framework Area (ALDP 01 Bus 5)	<p><b>Applications Received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 - 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13 – 2</li> </ul> <p><b>No of Approvals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 - 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13 - 2</li> </ul> <p><b>No of Refusals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 - 0</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13 - 0</li> </ul>	No data	No significant increase	No known constraint	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
Landscape Layout, siting, and design	<b>No data</b>	<p><b>Applications Received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 - 53</li> </ul>	Significant application of	There could be mixed effect for landscape	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement

of new developments ALDP 08 lsd2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10/12- 06/13 -1296</li> </ul> <b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 - 40</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13 - 1169</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 -13</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13 - 127</li> </ul> No data	policy		
How “Landscape character” Policy is applied to planning applications	<b>No data</b>	<b>Applications Received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 21</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 187</li> </ul> <b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 13</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 130</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 7</li> <li>10/12- 06/13- 57</li> </ul>	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
How “Valued views” Policy is applied to Planning Applications	<b>No data</b>	<b>Applications Received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 2</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 19</li> </ul> <b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 2</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 16</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 0</li> <li>10/12- 06/13- 3</li> </ul>	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
How “Public open space” Policy is applied to Planning Applications	<b>No data</b>	<b>Applications Received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 9</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 31</li> </ul> <b>No of Approvals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 8</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 21</li> </ul> <b>No of Refusals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12-10/12 – 1</li> <li>• 10/12- 06/13- 10</li> </ul>	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement



Percentage Greenspace type (primary codes only)	%	%	Trend	Constraints/Issues	Greenspace Scotland (February 2018) The Third State of Scotland's Greenspace Report (online) Available at <a href="http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf">http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf</a> (Accessed 7 March 2018)
• Public Park and Garden	8	1	No Trend		Same as above
• Private Garden	27	28	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• School Grounds	2	2	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Institutional Grounds	2	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Residential or business	31	23	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Play space	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Playing Fields	2	2	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Golf Course	6	7	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Tennis Course	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Bowling Green	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Other Sports facility	2	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Natural total	14	31	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• Allotments or community space growing	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Religious grounds	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Cemetery	<1	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Camping or caravan park	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Land use changing	5	3	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
<b>Percentage Greenspace type (primary and secondary codes only)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Trend</b>	<b>Constraints/Issues</b>	<b>Greenspace Scotland (February 2018) The Third State of Scotland's Greenspace Report (online) Available at <a href="http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf">http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf</a> (Accessed 7 March 2018)</b>
• Public Park and Garden	8	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Private Garden	27	27	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• School Grounds	2	2	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Institutional Grounds	2	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Residential or business	30	22	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Play space	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• Playing Fields	3	3	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Golf Course	6	7	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Tennis Course	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Bowling Green	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Other Sports facility	2	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Natural total	14	32	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Allotments or community growing space	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Religious grounds	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Cemetery	<1	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Camping or caravan park	<1	<1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Land use changing	4	3	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
<b>Summary Area Total of Greenspace types (primary codes only)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Trend</b>	<b>Constraints/Issues</b>	<b>Greenspace Scotland (February 2018) The Third State of Scotland's Greenspace Report (online) Available at <a href="http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf">http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf</a> (Accessed 7 March 2018)</b>
• Public Park and Garden	492	59	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• Private Garden	1,737	1,619	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• School Grounds	146	130	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Institutional Grounds	133	65	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Residential or business	1,960	1,357	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Play space	14	16	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Playing Fields	124	91	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Golf Course	358	425	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Tennis Course	2	1	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Bowling Green	6	4	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Other Sports facility	142	50	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Natural total	874	1,804	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Allotments or community growing space	16	7	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Religious grounds	16	12	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Cemetery	28	32	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Camping or caravan park	4	15	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• Land use changing	286	169	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Total	6,338	5,858			
<b>Summary Area Total of Greenspace types (primary and secondary codes only)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Trend</b>	<b>Constraints/Issues</b>	<b>Greenspace Scotland (February 2018) The Third State of Scotland's Greenspace Report (online) Available at <a href="http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf">http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/Data/Sites/1/media/docs/sosgreport/3rdstateofscotlandsgreenspacereport_010218.pdf</a> (Accessed 7 March 2018)</b>
• Public Park and Garden	492	59	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Private Garden	1,741	1,620	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• School Grounds	146	130	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Institutional Grounds	138	68	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Residential or business	1,969	1,360	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Play space	19	22	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Playing Fields	168	160	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Golf Course	358	425	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Tennis Course	5	2	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Bowling Green	9	5	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Other Sports facility	156	58	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• Natural total	940	1,967	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Allotments or community growing space	16	7	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Religious grounds	16	12	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Cemetery	28	32	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Camping or caravan park	4	16	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Land use changing	286	169	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
Total	<b>6,490</b>	<b>6,112</b>			

**Appendix 7.2.10: SEA Topic - Material Assets**

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)	
Council tax Band D	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2010/11 - £1230. 2011/12 - £1230. 2016.17 - £1,230.	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2010/11 - £1141 2011/12 - £1141 2016/17 - £1,141	No change	Government policy on keeping household costs down affects how much councils can charge	Council Tax Help Scotland - counciltaxadvisorsscotland.com
Household tenure – owner occupied	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2009/10 – 60% 2015/16 – 57%	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2009/10 – 74% 2015/16 – 73%	Substantial owner housing in City and Shire although it is higher in the Shire	House prices for first time buyers may be a constraint as so is the general economic climate	<b>Behind The Granite 2016 Sections available at</b> <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/tourism_visitor_attractions/tourists_visitors/statistics/BTG_2016_Housing.asp">http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/tourism_visitor_attractions/tourists_visitors/statistics/BTG_2016_Housing.asp</a> (assessed 11 July 2016)
Household tenure – social rent	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2009/10 – 24% 2015/16 -24%	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2009/10 – 17% 2015/16 – 16%	Low compared those living in their own homes	Ability of social landlords to build more homes	Same as above
Household tenure – private rent	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2009/10 – 14% 2015/16 –0.9 %	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2009/10 – 8% 2015/16 -17%	Lowest tenure	Probably open market rental values will constrain choice in this sector	Same as above
Public-sector housing stock	<b>Aberdeen</b> March 2012 - 22,740 March 2015 - 22,328	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> March 2012 - 12,877 March 2015 - 12,856	The Stock is falling	Issue is energy efficiency in this sector	Same as above
New Dwellings – Housing Completion	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2010/11 - 607 2013/14 - 717 2014/15 - 570	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2010/11 - 1,471 2013/14 - 1,122 2014/15 - 1,368	Rise in the latest data for the Shire but a fall in the latest data for the City	The economic climate can constrain how many new houses could be completed	<b>Behind The Granite 2016 Sections available at</b> <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/tourism_visitor_attractions/tourists_visitors/statistics/BTG_2016_Housing.asp">http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/tourism_visitor_attractions/tourists_visitors/statistics/BTG_2016_Housing.asp</a> (assessed 11 July 2016)
Economic	<b>Aberdeen</b>	<b>Aberdeenshire</b>	Rising in the Shire but	Falling oil prices	Same as above

Activity Rates,	2012 - 83.0% 2014 – 2015 – 80.5%	2012 - 82.6% 2014-2016- 84.0%	falling in the City		
Average Gross Weekly earnings	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2011/12 - £574.9 2014/14 - £617.0	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2011/12 -£456.7 2014/14 - £482.5	Quite high for the City and the Shire compared with national average	The oil industry seems to be boosting performance in the North East	Same as above
Established Housing Land Supply (EHLS) (including small sites)	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 21,271 2017 - 20,651	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 – 25, 634 2017 - 25, 486	Falling in both City and Shire	Reflection of Constrains	Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council (2016) Housing Land Audit, Aberdeen.  Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council (2017) Housing Land Audit, Aberdeen.
EHLS on Greenfield (%) (For Aberdeen Housing Market)	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 86 2017 - 86	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 – 94 2017 - 94	Unchanged	Reflection of Constrains	Same as above
EHLS on Brownfield (%) (For Aberdeen Housing Market)	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 14 2017 - 14	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 – 6 2017 - 6	Unchanged	Reflection of Constrains	Same as above
Constrained Housing Land Supply	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 3, 020 2017 - 2, 915	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 – 6, 808 2017 - 7, 083	Falling in the City but rising in the Shire	Reflection of Constrains	Same as above
5 – year effective housing land	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 6, 648 2017 - 6, 631	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 – 8, 112 2017 - 7, 727	Falling in the City but rising in the Shire	Reflection of Constrains	Same as above



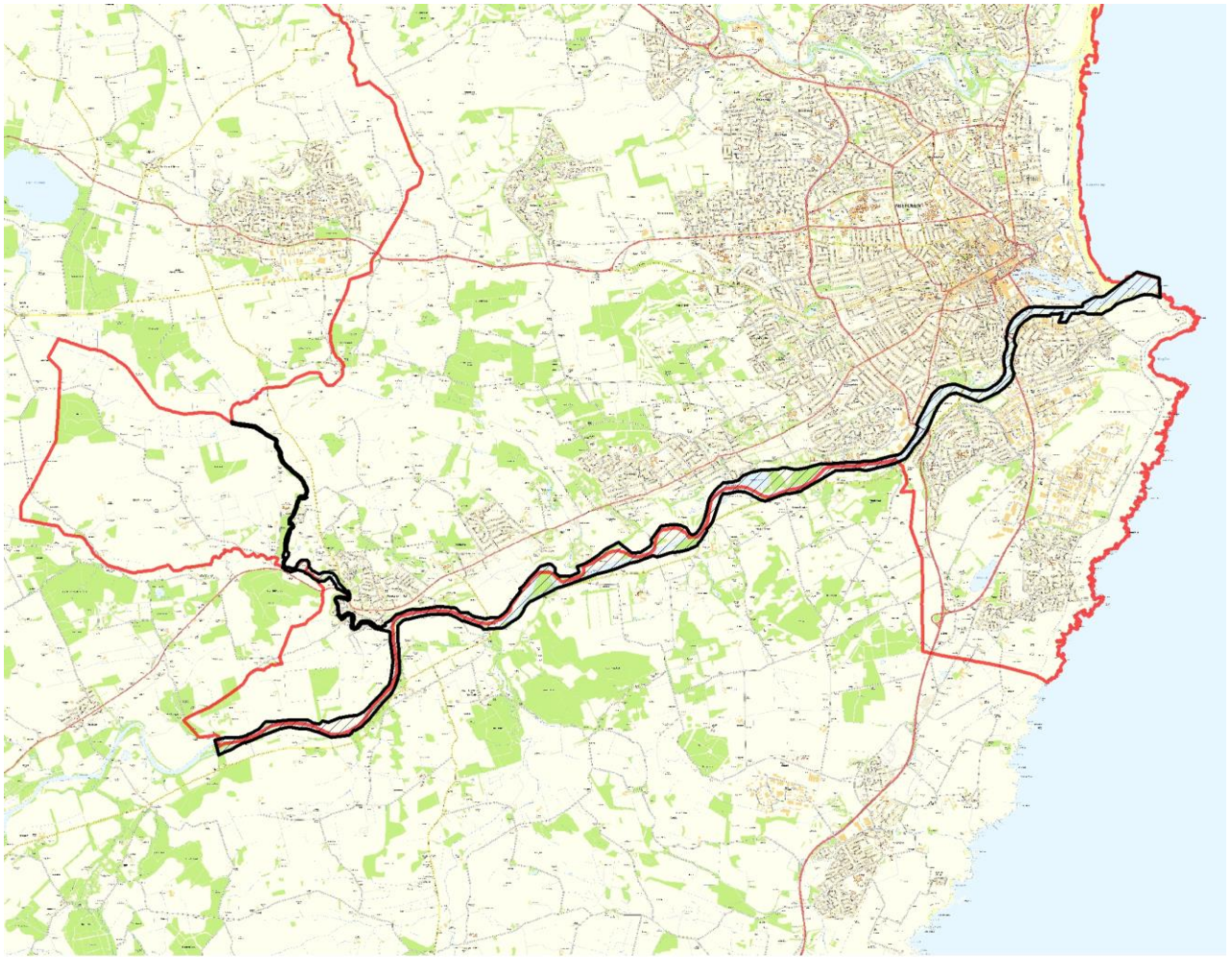
supply(including small sites)					
Effective Units Programmed Beyond Year 5 in 2016 and 2017	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2016 – 11, 603 2017 - 11, 105	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2016 – 10, 714 2017 - 10, 678	Falling in the City but rising in the Shire	Reflection of Constrains	Same as above
Housing completions (2017 figures are anticipated)	<b>Aberdeen</b> 2015 - 798 2016 – 833 2017 - 1, 274	<b>Aberdeenshire</b> 2015 – 1,304 2016 – 1, 133 2017 - 935	Falling in the City but rising in the Shire	Reflection of Constrains	Same as above



## Baseline Data, Targets and Trends affecting Aberdeen City



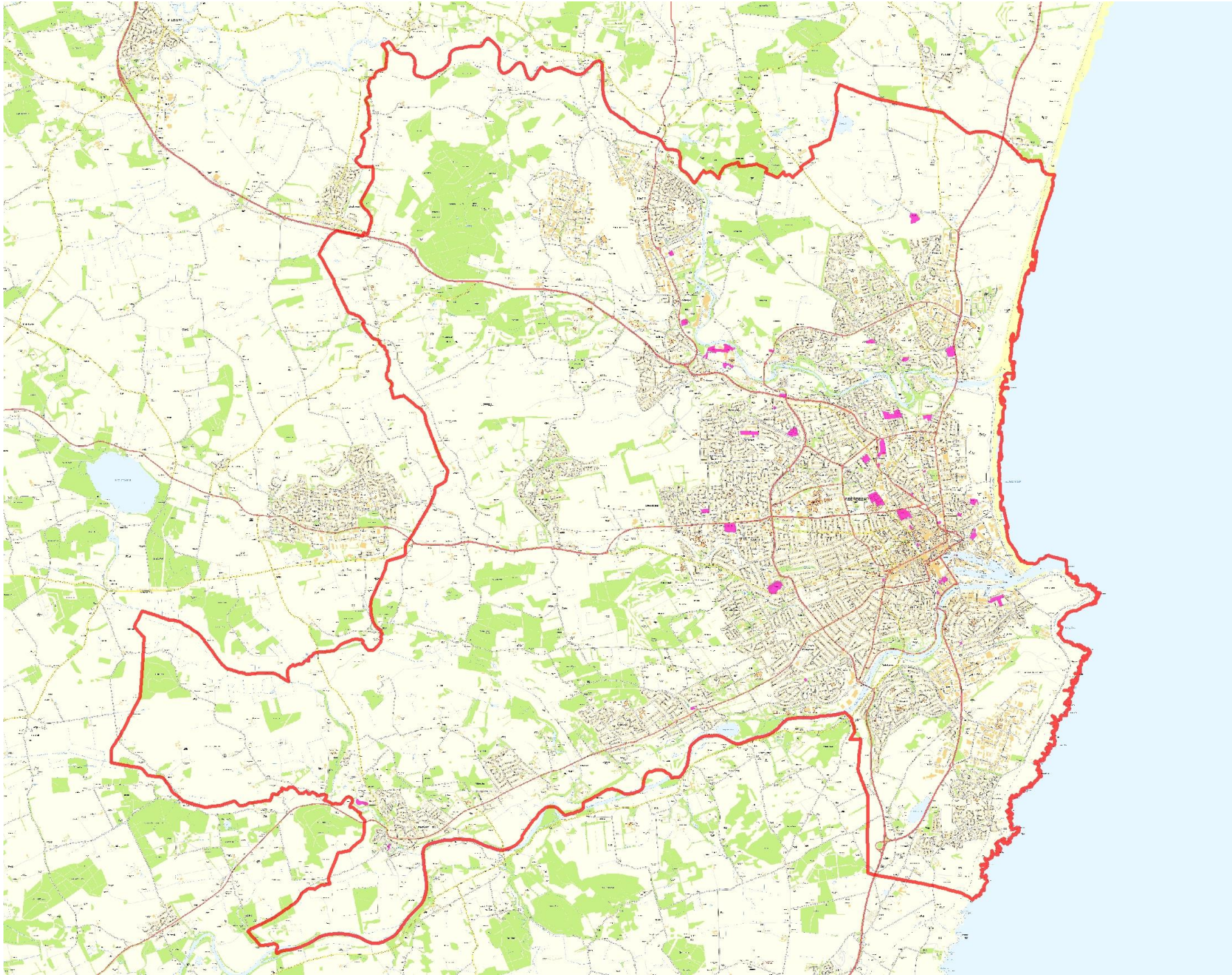
Map 1: Areas in Aberdeen at 0.5% risk of annual flooding from river (light blue) and coastal (dark blue hatched) sources.



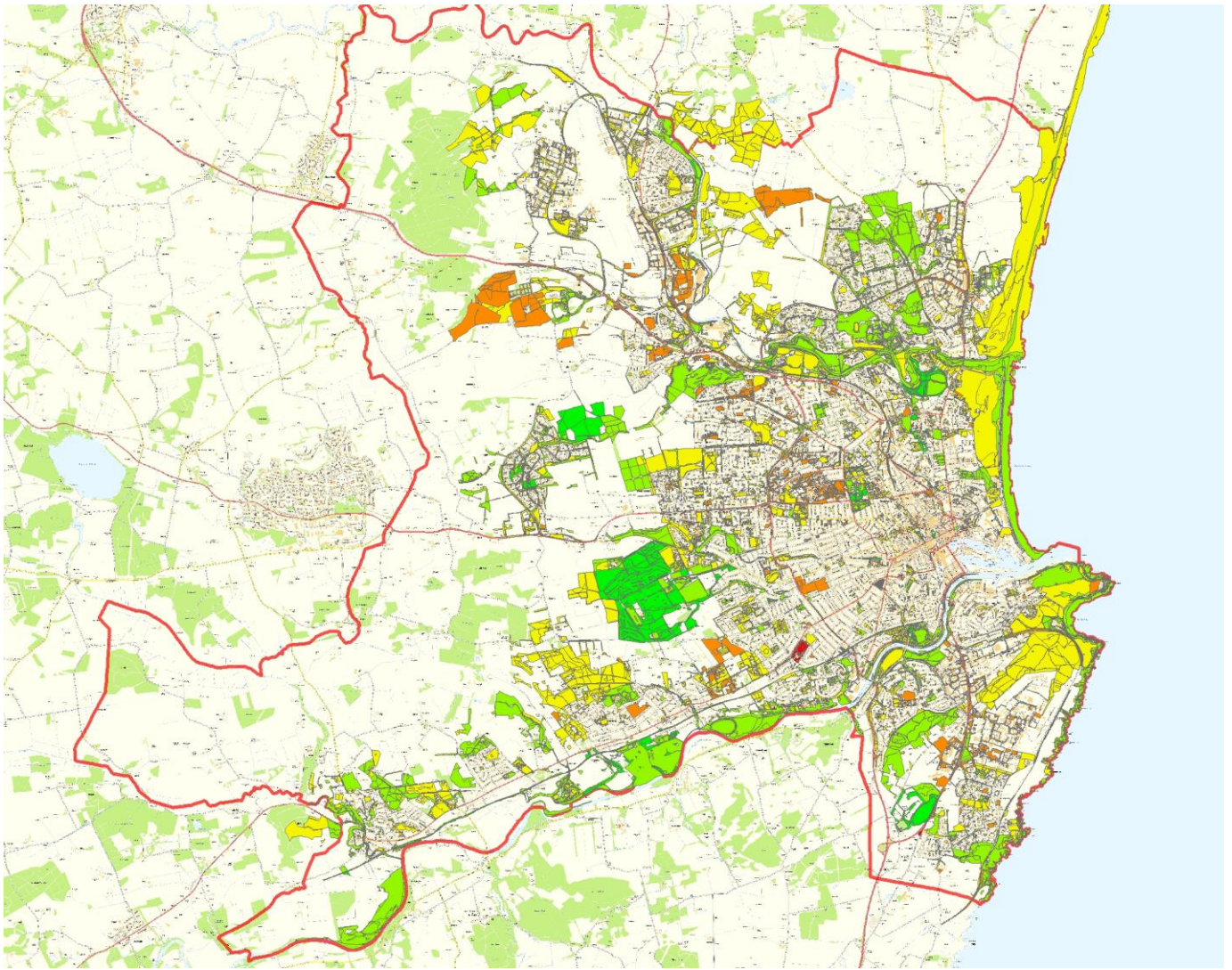
Map 2: River Dee Special Conservation Area in Aberdeen City



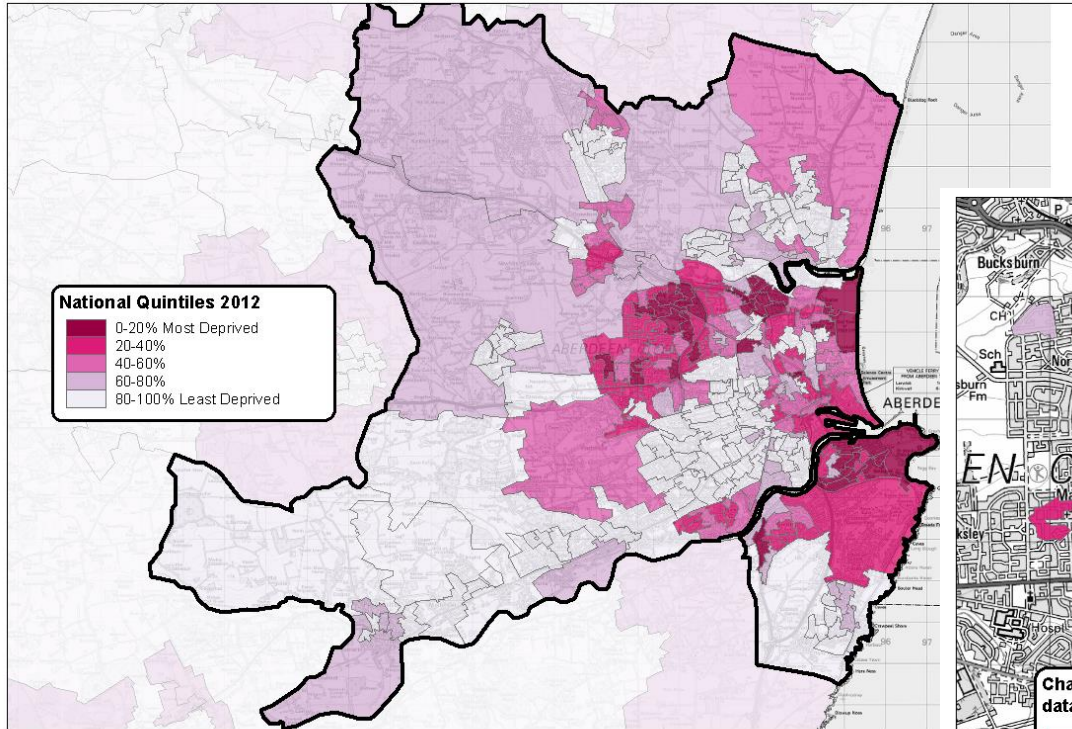
Map 3: Local Nature Conservation Sites (purple) and Local Nature Reserves (brown outline) in Aberdeen



Map 4:  
Vacant and  
Derelict  
Land Survey  
Sites 2012



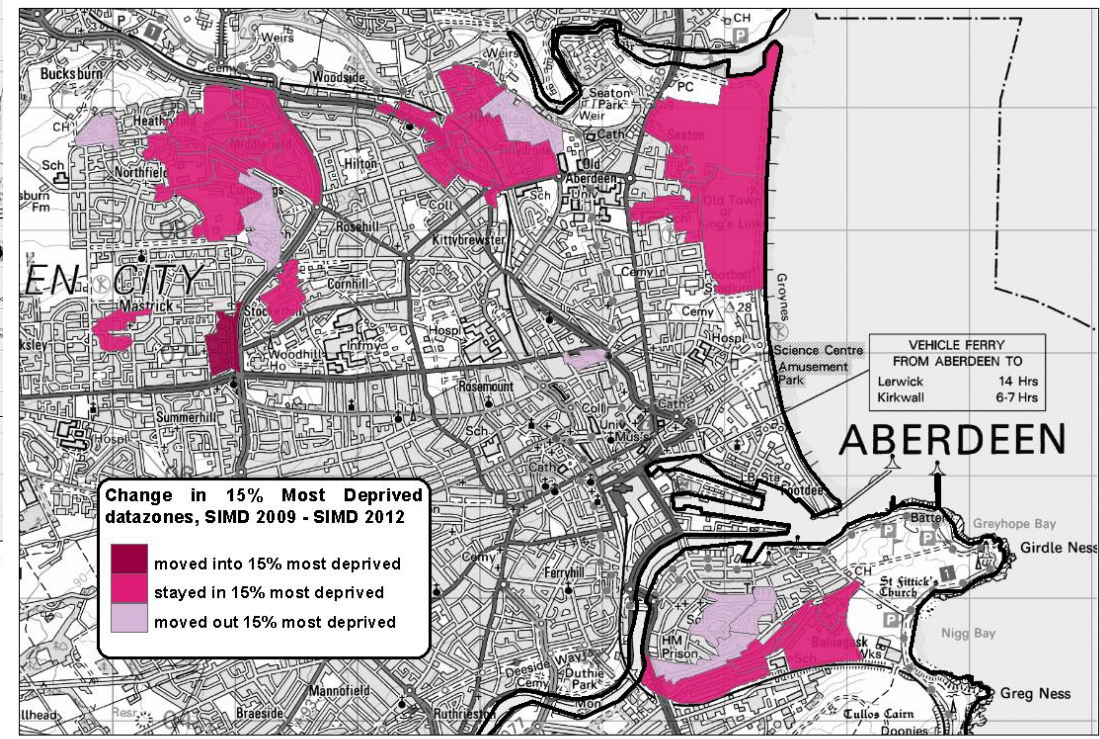
Map 5: Open Space Audit 2012- Quality of Open Spaces (Green= highest quality; red= lowest quality)



Map 6: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation: Aberdeen City datazones by national quintile. Source: SIMD 2012

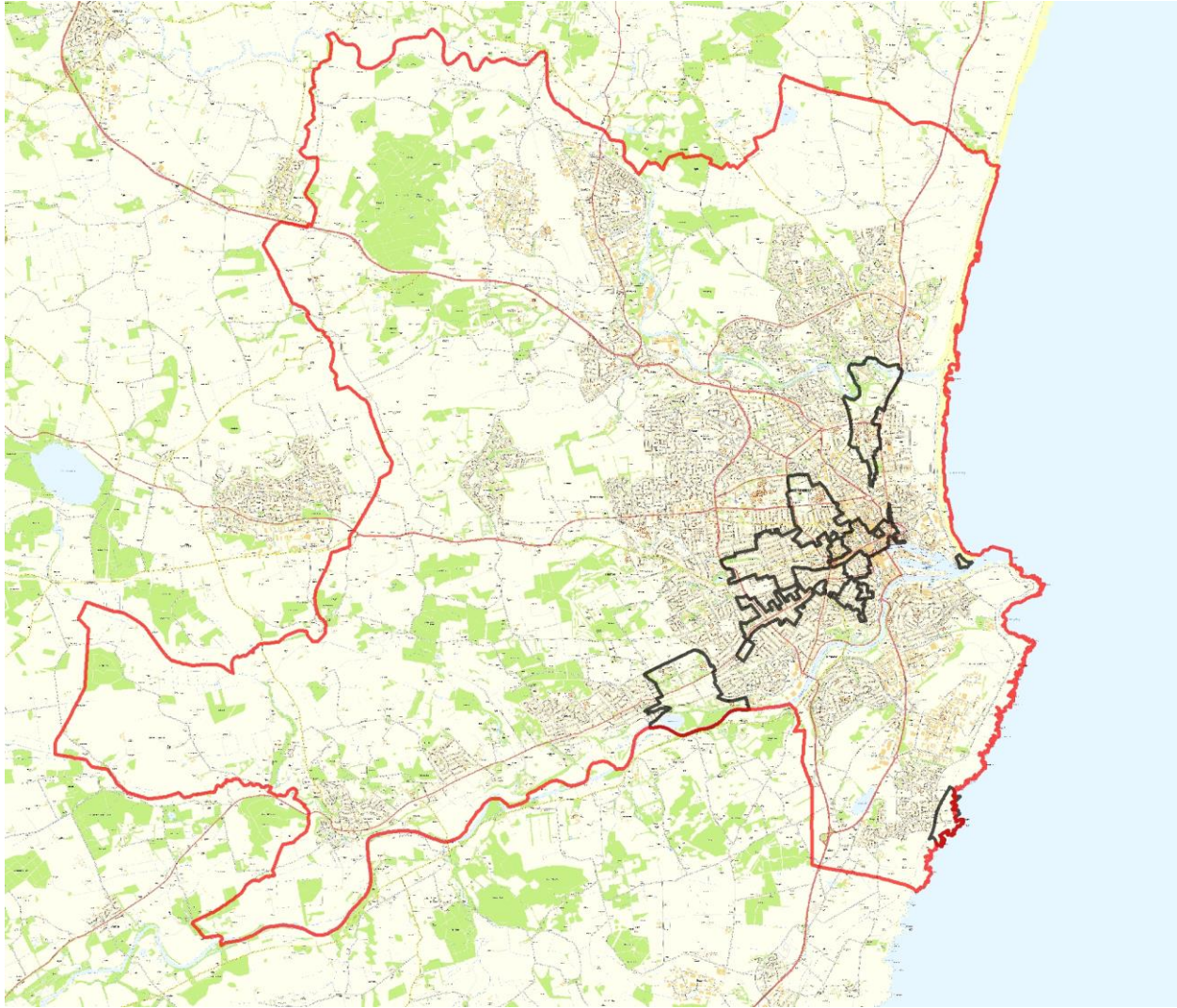
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Map 7: Change in 15% Most Deprived Datazones between SIMD 2009 and SIMD 2012 in Aberdeen. Source: SIMD 2012



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Map 8: Conservation Areas in Aberdeen