

**WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL**

# **SCREENING REPORT**

**SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE (SG)  
PLANNING AND NOISE**

## STEP 1 – DETAILS OF THE PLAN

**Responsible Authority:**

West Lothian Council

**Title of the plan:**

Supplementary Guidance (SG) – Planning and Noise

**What prompted the plan:**

(e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)

Legislative provision – The SG will support LDP Policy EMG 5 – ‘Noise’ and will form part of the plan. The guidance provides detail on the acceptable noise criteria that requires to be met, guidance on how to carry out a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) and outlines exceptional circumstances.

**Plan subject:**

(e.g. transport)

Town and Country Planning.

**Screening** is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Based on Boxes 3 and 4, our view is that:

**An SEA is required, as the environmental effects are likely to be significant:** Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

**An SEA is not required, as the environmental effects are unlikely to be significant:** Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

**Contact details:**

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**Date:**

8 August 2017

## STEP 2 – CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

**Context of the Plan:**

The West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted on 4 September 2018.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment - Environmental Report was published in August 2014, which set out the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the strategy for the development contained within the LDP and is the primary means by which development sites are allocated. Each site allocated for development within the LDP has been subject to an individual site assessment.

The principal Report of Examination was issued on 11 December 2017 (augmented with an additional Report of Examination dealing with a single site issue issued on 8 January 2018).

At a meeting of the Council Executive on 22 March 2018, West Lothian Council resolved to accept all of the modifications recommended in the Report of Examination, and agreed to adopt the Local Development Plan (as modified). This was notified to Scottish Ministers on 5 April 2018. At the same time, the council made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the modifications proposed by the DPEA to the West Lothian Local Development Plan were unlikely, overall, to have any major significant negative environmental effects and that a further SEA was not required.

Supplementary Guidance 'Planning and Noise' has been prepared in connection with the West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) and as such forms part of the LDP in line with Section 25 of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

The SG provides further information on Policy EMG 5 'Noise' contained in the LDP. The Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN 1/2011) Planning and Noise and updated guidance and standards have been taken into account in the preparation of the SG.

<p><b>Description of the Plan:</b></p>	<p>The SG 'Planning and Noise' is aimed at helping to prevent and limit the adverse effects of noise. It applies to where new noise sensitive developments are proposed near to existing noise sources and where potentially noisy developments are introduced into existing noise sensitive areas.</p> <p>The SG provides guidance on undertaking noise impact assessments (NIA) which may be required for any potential development in determining planning applications.</p> <p>The SG will cover the administrative geographical boundaries of West Lothian Council.</p> <p>When adopted the guidance will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.</p>
<p><b>What are the key components of the plan?</b></p>	<p>LDP Policy EMG 5 'Noise' reads;</p> <p><i>'There is a presumption against developments that are:</i></p> <p><i>a. likely to generate significant amounts of noise being located close to noise sensitive developments such as existing or proposed housing; or</i></p> <p><i>b. residential or other noise sensitive developments being close to noisy land use.</i></p> <p><i>The only exceptions will be where it can be demonstrated that:</i></p> <p><i>a. through design or mitigation, satisfactory internal and external noise levels can be achieved at the noise sensitive development; and</i></p> <p><i>b. through design or mitigation, there will be no adverse impact on the continued operation of any existing or proposed business or activity.</i></p> <p><i>The terms of the council's Supplementary Guidance on Noise will apply.'</i></p> <p>The SG provides guidance on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Policy context</li> <li>● Exceptional circumstances</li> <li>● Noise guidance for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Road traffic</li> <li>- Rail traffic</li> <li>- Industrial and commercial noise</li> <li>- Construction site noise</li> <li>- Noise from specific developments</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Noise criteria for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Traffic noise</li> <li>- Vibration</li> <li>- Industrial and commercial noise</li> <li>- Construction noise</li> <li>- Wind turbine noise</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Noise Impact Assessments (NIA)</li> <li>● Further guidance documents.</li> </ul>

**Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?**

Yes. The document is produced to support 'Policy EMG 5 'Noise' in the West Lothian Local Development Plan which was initially published in October 2015. An Environmental Assessment has previously been undertaken in respect of policies and proposed land allocations in the West Lothian LDP. The Environmental Assessment undertaken in respect of these policies concluded that they would have no significant environmental implications.

**In terms of your response to Boxes 7 and 8 above, set out those components of the plan that are likely to require screening:**

All

**STEP 3 – IDENTIFYING INTERACTIONS OF THE PLAN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND  
CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY INTERACTIONS**

Plan Components	Environmental Topic Areas										Explanation of Potential Environmental Effects	Explanation of Significance
	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Population and human health	Soil	Water	Air	Climatic factors	Material assets	Cultural heritage	Landscape	Inter-relationship issues		
Supplementary Guidance – 'Planning and noise'	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	<p>The SG aids the development management process by providing guidance to ensure due care and attention is paid to applying noise assessment criteria to new development proposals and that any noise impact assessments are carried out in accordance with recognised national policy.</p> <p>The principle of controlling noise sensitive developments which are proposed near to existing noise sources and where potentially noisy developments are introduced into existing noise sensitive areas may lead to a positive effect on population on human health. However, this policy principle is integral to the WLLDP which has been subject to a SEA.</p>	The SG is not considered to have any additional environmental effects.
Component 2												
Component 3												

Etc.

#### STEP 4 – STATEMENT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SCREENING

**Summary of interactions with the environment and statement of the findings of the Screening:**

(Including an outline of the likely significance of any interactions, positive or negative, and explanation of conclusion of the screening exercise.)

It is considered the SG will result in no or minimal environmental effects and therefore it is concluded a SEA is not required.

When completed send to: [SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or to the SEA Gateway, Scottish Government, Area 2H (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

