



# **SCREENING REPORT**

## **PLANNING GUIDANCE**

### **HISTORIC BATTLEFIELD**

#### **SITE OF BATTLE OF LINLITHGOW BRIDGE (1526)**

**(Allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun Mains,  
Linlithgow Bridge)**

STEP 1 – DETAILS OF THE PLAN

**Responsible Authority:**

West Lothian Council.

**Title of the plan:**

Planning Guidance - Historic Battlefield : Site of Battle of Linlithgow Bridge (1526) (Allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun Mains Linlithgow Bridge).

**What prompted the plan:**

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

The West Lothian Local Development Plan (WLLDP) gives an undertaking to produce guidance in relation to a variety of planning policy topics including the protection of the natural environment from inappropriate development.

The guidance sets out detailed criteria to assist the preparation and assessment of planning applications across the plan area and specifically supports policies:

- ENV 31 - Historic Battlefields: Battle of Linlithgow Bridge;
- ENV 32 - Archaeology; and
- ENV 33 - Scheduled Monuments.
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of the adopted LDP.

There is no extant Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) related to the historic environment in West Lothian. As a consequence there is recognition of the need to ensure that the council’s planning guidance arising from the local development plan adopted in 2018 is up to date and reflective of the most current LDP policies and best practice.

**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)

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<b>Contact details:</b>	Steve Lovell, Principal Planning Officer, West Lothian Council Civic Centre Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF.  01506 - 282430 / <a href="mailto:steve.lovell@westlothian.gov.uk">steve.lovell@westlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>Date:</b>	20 June 2022

## STEP 2 – CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

**Context of the Plan:**

The West Lothian Local Development Plan (WLLDP) 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).

The West Lothian Council Executive committee on 22 March 2018, 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.

Planning Guidance - Historic Battlefield : Site of Battle of Linlithgow Bridge (1526) (Allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun Mains Linlithgow Bridge), is required to support the understanding and delivery of three policies e.g. ENV 31 – ENV 33 in the adopted West Lothian Local Development Plan (2018).

The PG will expand on the principles of these policies and will provide detailed guidance to help achieve the outcomes expected from development proposals for the allocated housing site that covers part of the Linlithgow Bridge Battlefield.

The proposed Planning Guidance provides some location specific guidance.

The guidance identifies good practice in-line with the related policies and other guidance provided by Historic Environment Scotland related to battlefields.

**Description of the Plan:**

The proposed Planning Guidance expands on the principles set out in the three policies outlined in the section above and provides detailed guidance to help achieve the outcomes expected from any planning application(s) related to the allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun, West Lothian.

The planning guidance is intended for use by anyone considering this sort of development within West Lothian including:

- Developers and their Agents working for their clients on any development at allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun;
- Development Management Officers assessing planning proposals, as well as Historic Environment Scotland officers;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elected Members representing constituents and making decisions on related planning applications; and</li><li>• Members of the public with an interest in this large specific site located within their local community.</li></ul> <p>The Planning Guidance will be reviewed at least every 10 years in line with the statutory review of the West Lothian Local Development Plan (or as required by emerging legislation).</p>
<b>What are the key components of the plan?</b>	<p>This Planning Guidance covers the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Background to Battle of Linlithgow Bridge;</li><li>• Local Development Plan context and Policy ENV 31: Linlithgow Bridge battlefield and support in principle for sensitive management and interpretation of the site;</li><li>• Scottish Government Planning Advice Note (PAN 2/2011) on ‘Planning and archaeology’;</li><li>• HES ‘Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Historic Battlefields’ (2016) and the three key stages in the Development Management process relating to considering applications that effect historic battlefields:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Identify;</li><li>b) Assess; and</li><li>c) Mitigate.</li></ul></li><li>• Requirements related to planning applications within Linlithgow Bridge Battlefield Inventory area (see Appendix 2) and that they will be assessed by the council’s archaeological services provider, West of Scotland Archaeological Service.</li></ul>
<b>Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?</b>	<p>Yes. The document is produced to support a number of policies in the West Lothian Local Development Plan which was adopted on 4 September 2018. An Environmental Assessment has previously been undertaken in respect of policies and related proposed land allocations in the West Lothian LDP.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment undertaken in respect of these policies concluded that they would have no significant environmental implications. Any impacts of the policies were considered to be largely positive e.g.; in that they promoted good practice for securing sustainable development related to the historic environment.</p> <p>In order to ensure compliance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, a Screening Opinion for this Planning Guidance is required.</p>
<b>In terms of your response to Boxes 7 and 8 above, set out those components of the plan</b>	<p>The proposed Planning Guidance will expand on the principles set out in the aforementioned ENV 31-33 policies and provide detailed guidance to help achieve the outcomes expected from development proposals for the allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun, Linlithgow Bridge.</p>

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**that are likely to require screening:**

The guidance will support consistent interpretation and application of policy through the development management process. The guidance will at the same time encourage good practice in-line with policies and other similar guidance arising from Historic Environment Scotland.

The potential environmental effects of any proposed development considered under the terms of the policies can however only be fully assessed at the planning application stage when development details are known.

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**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		
Planning Guidance – Linlithgow Bridge Battlefield / Allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun, West Lothian.							✓	✓	✓	✓	<p>The PG brings together all of the elements that help contribute towards minimising environmental impact and achieving sustainable development at the allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun, West Lothian.</p> <p>It provides a clear set of guidance and standards to explain what the council will expect from such new developments and identifies what information is required as part of a planning application(s).</p> <p>It also provides contact details for various Council Services and other organisations with an interest in the historic battlefield.</p>	<p>The SEA for the LDP considered any potential effects.</p> <p>The Planning Guidance - Historic Battlefield : Site of Battle of Linlithgow Bridge (1526) (Allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun Mains Linlithgow Bridge) that covers part of the wider Linlithgow Bridge Battlefield is not considered to have any additional significant negative environmental effects that can't be ameliorated via any required archaeological investigation and recording.</p>





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With careful thought and sensitive execution, proposals related to the Linlithgow Bridge Battlefield. can be made to be in much better harmony with their neighbours and the wider natural environment on the sensitive site on the west side of the town.

In common with other planning guidance prepared by West Lothian Council, it will be subject to external consultation, in this case with Historic Environment Scotland and community councils, planning consultants and developers as well as local interested organisations and regard will be given to the responses and feedback which has been received and presented to elected members to consider.

In conclusion, the Planning Guidance - Historic Battlefield : Site of Battle of Linlithgow Bridge (1526) (Allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun Mains Linlithgow Bridge) will result in no major, or minimal, environmental effects and therefore it is concluded a SEA is **NOT** required.

The guidance sets out detailed criteria to assist the development and assessment of proposals for the allocated housing site H-LL 13 at Kettlestoun, West Lothian and specifically supports historic environment policies: ENV 31 – ENV 33 of the adopted LDP which collectively seek to prevent and minimize visually and environmentally intrusive development related to the historic built environment.

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