



Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

All of nature for all of Scotland
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad

Statement of Reasons

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination for the Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund – Strategic Intervention 2018-2023

Introduction

This document sets out the reasons for Scottish Natural Heritage not carrying out an SEA on the Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund. This paper should be read in conjunction with the determination notice.

Determination

It has been determined by Scottish Natural Heritage, following advice from the Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultation Authorities (SEPA and Historic Environment Scotland) that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for the Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund. The individual consultation authorities' responses to the SEA screening, the screening report itself and the determination notice can be viewed online at nature.scot.

Statement of Reasons

This section sets out why SNH has determined that the Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund will not be subject to a strategic environmental assessment. The reasons are collated from information gathered during the screening process for the strategic environmental assessment and the responses to the screening from the consultation authorities.

The reasons for not carrying out a full SEA can be summarised as follows;

- The Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund sits within the Scottish Government's existing European Regional Development Fund framework of policies, plans and strategies that have previously been subject to SEA (ERDF Programme for Scotland SEA Assessment).
- Whilst the Plan will determine the way SNH delivers funding for projects, it does not identify specific projects and any projects that do arise from the Fund will be subject to planning and other regulatory controls. These processes will ensure that environmental effects can be avoided or minimised.

All comments made by the consultation authorities will be taken into consideration in the delivery of the fund.

SNH will now progress with the development and delivery of the Fund.