

# **PRE-SCREENING NOTIFICATION**

## SEA PRE-SCREENING DOCUMENT

**Responsible Authority:**

Orkney Islands Council

**Title of the plan:**

Orkney Islands Council Local Housing Strategy 2024 - 2029

**What prompted the plan:**

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

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 places a statutory requirement on local authorities to assess the housing needs of all persons in the area, across all housing tenures, and to develop strategies to meet those needs. This requires the production of a Local Housing Strategy (LHS).

**Plan subject:**

(e.g. transport)

Town and country planning/land use

**Brief summary of the plan:**

(including the area or location to which the plan related)

The LHS provides contextual information on the issues facing the housing sector in Orkney, and sets out a range of actions seeking to further explore or encourage action to address the issues. The Housing Need and Demand Assessment (2023) which underpins the LHS, and the LHS influences the future Local Development Plan (LDP) policies for housing by helping to identify issues that the future LDP may seek to address. However the LHS itself does not introduce policy requirements or set a framework for development.

The LHS covers the Orkney Islands Council area in general - with the exception of one action, there is no specific geographical location for the LHS actions. The single action that has a specific geographical location refers to a site allocated for housing in the 2017 LDP, which has been subject to separate SEA as part of the SEA for that LDP. (The action is "Adopt a partnership approach to new mixed housing developments where one partner leads on design and procurement and transfers ownership at the end of development. Test through implementation of site K9." K9 is an allocation for housing within the settlement of Kirkwall.)

**Brief summary of the likely environmental consequences:**

(including whether it has been determined that the plan is likely to have no or minimum effects, either directly or indirectly)

The LHS itself will not have any environmental effects as it does not set a framework for development. (While overcoming the issues identified in the LHS would be positive for population and human health, this relies largely on housing and improvements being delivered, which is beyond the remit of the LHS. Identification of the potential locations for housing would occur through other plans, programmes or strategies, such as the future LDP. Any site proposed for housing in the future LDP would be subject to separate site specific SEA during the plan preparation process.)

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