



Historic Scotland Mavisbank House Policies Landscape Management Plan



Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
Scoping report
27 July 2010

SCOPING TEMPLATE COVER NOTE**PART 1**

To SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

PART 2

A Scoping Report is attached for the following plan:

	Mavisbank House Policies Management Plan
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The Responsible Authority is:

	Historic Scotland
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PART 3

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and requires and SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

PART 4

Contact name	Rosalind Campbell
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Job Title	Senior Development Assessment Officer
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Contact address	Historic Scotland Longmore House (Room E7) Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH
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Contact tel no	0131 668 8575
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Contact email	Rosalind.Campbell@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
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PART 5

Signature	
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Date	27 July 2010
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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Mavisbank House, an 18th century country villa and its policies, is situated on the north side of the valley of the River North Esk between the villages of Loanhead and Polton. The house and the surrounding policies are in a dilapidated state. Scottish Ministers own the policies which Historic Scotland manages on their behalf as an executive of the Scottish Government. Currently these are managed on very basic care and maintenance.

In recent years the house and its policies have been the subject of various studies and proposals, which have attracted national and international attention. This includes a Lothian Building Preservation Trust feasibility study in 1989, and the formation of the Mavisbank Trust which entered the BBC's Restoration series in 2003. Historic Scotland does not own the building but since the 1980s has had close involvement with the site, using emergency powers under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 to install scaffolding to prevent the building's collapse, erecting a security fence to the site and undertaking some basic maintenance.

The purpose of this [Strategic Environmental Assessment](#) Scoping Report is to set out sufficient information on the Mavisbank House Policies Management Plan to enable the Consultation Authorities to form a view on the consultation period and scope/level of detail that will be appropriate for the Environmental Report. This report has been prepared in accordance with the [Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#). Table 1 sets out the key facts about the management plan including the area it covers and its purpose.

Table 1: Key Facts

Responsible Authority	Historic Scotland
Title of plan	Mavisbank House Policies Landscape Management Plan
Plan subject	Natural & historic environment
Period covered by the plan	2010-2020
What prompted the plan	In accordance with good conservation practice Historic Scotland wish to have an appropriate management framework in place as a guide for its future work to the policies.
Frequency of updates	As required
Plan area	The plan is for the management of the Mavisbank Policies only (not the house) (see maps in Figure 1)
Purpose of plan	To provide a framework for the future management of the policies which surround Mavisbank House.
Contact point for queries on the plan and the SEA	Rosalind Campbell Senior Development Assessment Officer Historic Scotland Longmore House Edinburgh, EH9 1SH 0131 668 8575

1.2 Content of the management plan

The purpose of the plan is to provide a framework for the future management of the policies which surround Mavisbank House. The aim is to set out a maintenance programme but it will also set out an aspirational Conservation Plan. This will cover matters such as:

- Re-associating of the house with its grounds and wider landscape setting
- Recovering some key designed landscape features
- Opening up access to the house and its policies from the main road.

It is intended that the plan will provide realistic and flexible management options for what is a nationally important, but significantly degraded, designed landscape. The plan will identify key and urgent maintenance works that need to be carried out to safeguard the historic designed landscape from permanent loss of features and to avoid further degradation of the landscape. The plan will also consider the implications for balancing issues in relation to the natural and cultural heritage of the site, and explore how greater public benefit can be gained from the policies.

Restoration work to some of the policies may require Properties in Care Clearance¹ and careful consideration will need to be given to the treatment of other environmental issues (biodiversity, hydrology etc).

It is envisaged that the plan will include an overall vision or conservation policy which will set out overall principles for site management. Broad objectives will be set out for those long and medium term strategies such as phased repair and replacement of significant features and areas. Short term actions will also be included and will set out projects identified in the development of the plan as requiring urgent attention for maintenance and repair. The plan will also include a commitment to a routine annual maintenance programme over a ten year period which will be updated and reviewed as required. The plan will contain the following elements:

- conservation policies and approach - for the landscape as a whole and for each defined 'zone', reflecting the inherent heritage significance and vulnerabilities, but also cognisant of practical and fiscal limitations;
- phased repair and enhancement programme, including:
 - necessary arboricultural and horticultural works;
 - conservation interventions;
 - landscape works (access points, path network, etc.);
 - design strategy for proposed reinstatements;
- long-term management, maintenance and repair cycle, including consideration of the grazing land-uses and the interface with potential visitor activities;
- potential educational uses including training, and links to broader interpretive strategies for Midlothian / Esk valley;
- links to wider green/access networks and initiatives;
- opportunities for volunteer and community engagement

A Monitoring strategy, Implementation and Performance Indicators/Actions will also be included.

¹ [Please refer to Scottish Historic Environment Policy \(SHEP\) 2009 Section 3.23-3.328 for information on Properties and in Care Clearance. Further information on Properties in Care is also contained in Chapter 4 of SHEP](#)

1.3 Purpose of this report

The requirement for SEA comes from the European Directive 42/2001/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (commonly known as the SEA Directive). This is implemented in Scotland through the [Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#)²². Under section 5(4) of the Act, plans, programmes and strategies with the potential to have significant environmental effects are to be subject to environmental assessment prior to adoption.

Historic Scotland considers that the management plan has the potential to result in significant environmental effects and submitted a screening report to the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway on 6 July 2010 to seek the views of the Consultation Authorities (SNH and SEPA). SEPA considered that the plan is unlikely to have significant effects for their areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health and climatic factors). Scottish Natural Heritage considered that the plan is likely to have potential positive and negative effects for the natural heritage. Overall it is considered that the plan has the potential for both positive and negative significant effects on the historic and natural heritage and as such an SEA is required.

The purpose of this report is to set out sufficient information on the proposed scope and level of detail of the environmental assessment and on the proposed period of consultation on the Issues and Options Paper and the Environmental Report (ER) to allow SNH and SEPA to provide us with their views on these matters.

Issues and Options Paper

At consultation stage we intend to seek views on an issues and options document which will include a discussion of the broad objectives and alternatives that have been considered alongside the types of actions associated with each scenario. The responses to this consultation and the findings of the environmental assessment will go on to inform the final management plan.

The intention is to specify and provide justification for each of the actions that are taken in to the Management Plan as part of the assessment in the ER. As the management plan is still being developed it is too early to include this information in any detail in this scoping report.

²² http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2005/asp_20050015_en_1

2. Context

2.1 Other plans, programmes, strategies and environmental objectives

One of the early stages of the SEA process is to consider the relationship of the plan to other relevant policies, plans, strategies and environmental objectives. This allows key environmental protection objectives to be identified for consideration during the plan preparation process. It is also important to identify both the plans and strategies that will influence the management plan and those that will be influenced by the management plan. An understanding of the context and the hierarchy that the plan sits within is also useful for giving early thought to mitigation measures and where they may be best implemented.

Appendix A sets out the review of the current legislation, policies, plans and strategies that are considered to be most directly relevant to the management plan. It has been assumed that the key environmental protection objectives for each of the environmental parameters identified in schedule 3 of the Act are translated into national policy and strategy. The environmental protection framework provided by European legislation has not been reviewed in detail. Instead, the focus has been to review the key areas of legislation relevant to the management plan and its assessment.

The key environmental protection objectives identified from the review of legislation, policies, plans and strategies are:

- To protect and where appropriate enhance the historic environment
- To protect and enhance species and habitats
- To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats
- To safeguard landscapes
- To manage access appropriately to avoid damage to archaeological sites or habitats, and disturbance to wildlife, especially breeding birds, by heavy public use of sensitive areas
- To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of the natural and historic environment
- To promote and encourage opportunities for people of all abilities to enjoy access to wildlife and the countryside
- To be positioned to respond to the projected effects of climate change
- To promote sustainable development

2.2 Environmental baseline

In order to establish the environmental effects of the management plan it is necessary to understand the environmental baseline of the area that is likely to be affected. [Schedule 3](#)³ of the Act lists the environmental parameters that should be considered in SEA. To focus the SEA, baseline information will be gathered on the environmental issues that are likely to be affected by the plan. Information will not be gathered on those environmental parameters scoped out of the assessment (Table 3 sets out the environmental topics that are scoped in/out of the assessment).

³ http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2005/asp_20050015_en_7#sch3

A detailed description of the environmental baseline will be included in the ER. Baseline information will be provided on the environmental features within the Mavisbank House Policies area and its vicinity where appropriate. Table 2 sets out the key information that will be included in the ER for each environmental topic. The map at Figure 1 Appendix A also sets out the environmental assets in and around the Mavisbank Policies.

Table 2: Baseline data and sources

Environmental parameter	Baseline data	Sources
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Statutory Designated Sites (SSSIs) European Protected Species Non statutory designated sites (Ancient Woodlands) Springfield Mill Local Wildlife Site Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) species and habitats	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) http://www.heritageaudit.org.uk/annexes.pdf The Woodland Trust Springfield Mill Local Wildlife Site Management Plan (Mid Lothian Council) Midlothian Council
Landscape	Landscape character Sites of Local Landscape Character e.g. Areas of Great Landscape Value and areas identified on Local Plan proposals maps	SNH Lothians Landscape Character Assessment Midlothian Council Local Plan
Cultural Heritage	Scheduled Monuments Listed Buildings Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes Regionally/locally important archaeological sites and unscheduled archaeology Conservation Areas	Historic Scotland GIS Downloader East Lothian and Midlothian Sites and Monuments Record National Monuments Record of Scotland (includes equivalent data to the Sites and Monuments Record) Midlothian Council Local Plan
Population and human health	Access and recreation Potential hazards from disused mine shafts, falling masonry and potential land slippage	Midlothian Council Potential hazards identified on the site from previous site assessments of the policies.
Soil	We do not consider that the plan will have strategic environmental effects on soil and do not intend to provide any baseline information on this topic (see Table 3).	

Water	We do not consider that the plan will strategic environmental effects on water and do no intend to provide any baseline information on this topic. Water management at a local level will be addressed through the biodiversity topic and cultural heritage topic. (see Table 3)	
Air quality	We do not consider that the plan will affect air quality and do not intend to provide any baseline information on this topic (see Table 3).	
Climatic factors	SNIFFER 2006 Online Handbook of Climate Trends across Scotland UKCIP Climate Modelling	SNIFFER http://www.sniffer.org.uk http://www.seaguidance.org.uk UKCIP
Material assets	We have scoped material assets out of the assessment and do not intend to provide baseline information on this topic (see Table 3).	

2.3 Environmental Issues

Mavisbank House Policies have a number of protective designations for its natural and cultural heritage. There will be eventualities when the needs of nature conservation and cultural heritage will be in opposition. The management plan will have to consider how to balance these factors in decision making.

Potential hazards within the site such as disused mine workings, falling masonry and potential land slippage will also have to be assessed. Water management will also have to be considered carefully; potential impacts could arise from land management practices that are implemented in the plan. These could include damage from water logging/flooding from ground water risings, which could cause habitat change within the landscape, as well as potential damage to the River Esk through potential run-off from grazing/chemical use/mine water.

In addition climate change and invasive non-native species on site (e.g. Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed) have the potential to significantly affect ancient woodland and other natural heritage features.

The plan will also consider increased visitor access to the site because there is the potential for increased visitors to put its physical fabric and natural features at increased risk. The management plan will have to consider how it can maintain a balance between sustainable tourism and sufficient protection of the site's attributes.

2.4 Evolution of the environment without the management plan

If a management plan were not developed for the Mavisbank House Policies then the management of the site would tend to be reactive. Natural changes to habitats and the environment would continue. This could have detrimental effects not only on the designed landscape itself, but also for the local biodiversity. This may have consequences for its status and would likely bear a detrimental effect on the natural and historic environment assets that are protected by the site.

3. Proposed Scope and Level of Detail of the Environmental Assessment

3.1 Scoping in/out SEA topics

A key part of the scoping process in SEA is to identify whether the environmental parameters set out in schedule 3 of the Act are likely to be affected by the plan. This can lead to some environmental topics being “scoped out” of the assessment. The scoping process helps to focus the SEA on the key significant issues.

An initial assessment has been undertaken to identify the environmental parameters that are likely to be affected by the management plan and this is set out in Table 3. At this stage, it is difficult to be certain whether a number of environmental parameters will be affected by the plan, as the objectives and actions to be included in the management plan are still being developed. However, a reasonable level of judgment has been made at this stage and the scope of the assessment will be reviewed following consultation on the scoping report.

Table 3: Scoping in/out

Environmental parameter	Scoped in/out	Potential issues arising from the management plan and justification for scoping in/out
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	In	<p>The plan presents the potential for significant positive or negative environmental impacts on the natural environment.</p> <p>Impacts on European and other protected and notable species will be considered.</p> <p>Impacts to Ancient Woodland and veteran trees will be considered.</p> <p>The interactions between soil and the unmanaged animal population will need to be addressed.</p> <p>Potential impacts on the local water biodiversity environment will need to be considered.</p> <p>There is also potential for environmental effects of the plan to be positive, such as considering opportunities for promoting links between nearby settlements and the Esk Valley Paths and the enhancement of ancient woodlands (e.g. by removing non-native tree species).</p>
Population and Human Health	In	<p>It is considered that the plan could have significant effect on population and human health. Some hazards within the site such as disused mine workings, falling masonry and land slippage will need to be considered.</p> <p>Improving access to the site and promoting recreation are also key aspects of the plan.</p>
Soil	Out	<p>It is considered that the plan will not have a significant effect on soil. The interactions between soil and the unmanaged animal population will be addressed through biodiversity, flora and fauna.</p>

Water	Out	It is considered that the plan will not have a significant effect on water. Water management of the site and impacts on the local water environment including local biodiversity and potential impacts from mine water, potential run off impacting on to the River Esk, and flooding, etc will be assessed as part of the Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna topic. Impacts from water to areas of cultural significance such as the water logging of a former cricket ground will be considered under the cultural heritage topic.
Air	Out	It is considered that the plan will not have significant effect on air quality as none of the actions are likely to lead to a substantial increase in air pollution or improve current air quality.
Climatic Factors	Out	It is considered that the management plan will not have a significant effect on climate change in terms of emission of greenhouse gases.
	In	The projected effects of climate change may have implications for the management of the site, for example, through increased soil erosion, water-logging and impact from pests and diseases. In order to test the resilience of the plan and reduce vulnerability these aspects of climatic factors will be considered within the assessment
Material Assets	Out	Due to the limited infrastructure within the site it is considered that the management plan will not have a significant effect on material assets (waste, transport infrastructure, minerals, energy etc).
Cultural Heritage	In	The cultural heritage of the site is of national importance and the management plan will seek to protect this. The environmental effects of this are likely to be positive.
Landscape	In	Mavisbank House Policies are designated as a Garden and Designed Landscape, and provide the setting for the A listed Mavisbank House. The parks and woodlands that are part of the policies provide some contribution to the surrounding scenery. The site sits within Mavisbank Conservation Area. Any effects on the landscape arising from the implementation of the management plan will be considered within the assessment.

3.2 Proposed level of detail of the assessment

The environmental assessment will be undertaken at a level of detail that is appropriate to the management plan. For example, the detailed aspects of the plan (i.e. actions) will be assessed in greater level of detail than the overarching vision.

Issues and Options Paper

The Issues and Options Paper will set out a discussion relating to the vision, broad aims and objectives for the future management of the site. This will also specify the types of actions associated with these aims and objectives. As these options are still being developed it is too early to include this information in any detail in this scoping

report. However, the environmental assessment will consider all the options and alternatives that are discussed in the Issues and Options Paper that are likely to result in significant environmental effects, including assessment of the objectives, aims and actions. Some actions may be scoped out of the assessment (because they are unlikely to result in any environmental effects) and where this is the case a justification will be provided in the ER.

The actions will be reviewed as part of a cycle of annual monitoring. It is the intention that a schedule of commitments is provided within the Post-Adoption Statement identifying the potential environmental effects that will require further consideration as the management plan is implemented. This will be one of the key ways of mitigating potentially adverse environmental effects. We also intend to fully integrate the monitoring of the implementation of the plan alongside any requirements to monitor significant and unforeseen environmental effects.

3.3 Alternatives

The SEA will assess the environmental effects of the alternatives that are considered during the plan preparation process. For example, this may include alternative wording for the vision, aims, actions or more detailed alternatives for the actions that are taken forward into the finalised management plan. This will be described fully in the ER.

4. Proposed Assessment Framework

4.1 Assessment Method

As set out in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.3, the SEA will include assessment of the management plan's vision, aims, issues and actions and, where appropriate, alternatives to these. The actions will be sifted and those with no environmental effects will not be included in the assessment. This process will be described in the ER.

An assessment framework has been developed to provide a consistent way of assessing each element of the management plan. SEA objectives have been developed for each of the environmental parameters scoped in to the assessment. These are supported by more detailed assessment criteria which will be applied to the more detailed components of the management plan (i.e. actions that lead to projects on the ground). The SEA objectives and criteria are set out in Table 4.

Table 4: SEA Objectives and criteria

Environmental parameter	SEA Objective Will the management plan ...?	SEA Criteria How will the management plan affect ...?
Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent damage and encourage favourable condition to designated sites and protected species Manage access to the site appropriately to avoid damage to habitats and disturbance to wildlife, by heavy public use of sensitive areas Promote and enhance where appropriate the importance of the site from a natural heritage perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hewan Bank and Bilston Burn SSI's, Springfield Mill Local Wildlife Site Protected species Ancient Woodland and veteran species Wider biodiversity
Population and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the public from potential hazards on site Promote enjoyment, understanding and access to natural and cultural heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential hazards identified on the site Access to Mavisbank House Policies
Climatic Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to effective adaptation to the projected effects of climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The projected effects of climate change – flooding, erosion, increased storminess etc
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and where appropriate enhance the historic environment Manage access to the site appropriately to avoid damage to historic assets by heavy public use of sensitive areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Environment features and their setting
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance the landscape value of the site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mavisbank Garden and Designed Landscape Wider landscape value

The environmental assessment will be undertaken and reported using the framework set out in Table 5. Where appropriate, this framework will be used to assess alternatives.

The assessment of impact for short (S), medium (M) and long (L) term effects will be undertaken using a simple scoring system:

- ✓✓ significant positive effect
- ✓ positive effect
- ✓/✗ positive and/or negative effect
- ✗ negative effect
- ✗✗ significant negative effect
- ? uncertain effect
- neutral effect

The results of the assessment will be explained using the comments box and will be discussed in the ER. As noted previously, a fuller discussion of the likely environmental effects will be provided for the more detailed parts of the plan. The detailed assessment tables (one for the vision, each aim and action scoped in to the assessment) will be included in an appendix to the ER. Information will be provided on the potential for cumulative effects (direct, indirect, secondary and synergistic) associated with these actions. A further summary will be provided on the likely cumulative & synergistic effects of implementing the plan as a whole.

4.2 Mitigation

Mitigation measures will be developed for the elements of the management plan that are considered to have the potential for significant environmental effect. Mitigation may include making changes to the plan as well as proposing measures to be implemented as the plan is delivered. This will be fully explained in the ER. As discussed in paragraph 3.2, the intention is to develop a schedule of commitments to ensure that environmental issues are integrated into the early options stage of any projects taken forward during the lifetime of the management plan.

5. Monitoring

5.1 Monitoring Proposal

Indicators will be developed to monitor the significant environmental effects of the management plan and will be included in the ER. Indicators will also be developed to monitor the performance of the plan and we will avoid duplication of effort and try to link in with the management plan indicators, where appropriate. The performance of the plan will be evaluated on an as required basis.

6. Next Steps

6.1 Consultation period on the Environmental Report

The Issues and Options Paper and Environmental Report will be consulted upon at the same time and we propose a consultation period of no less than 6 weeks.

Appendix A

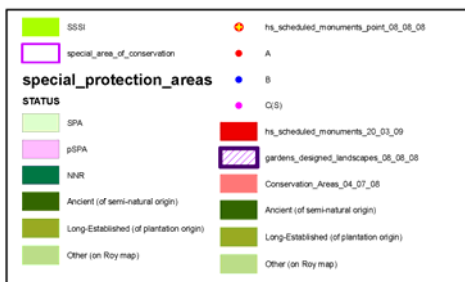
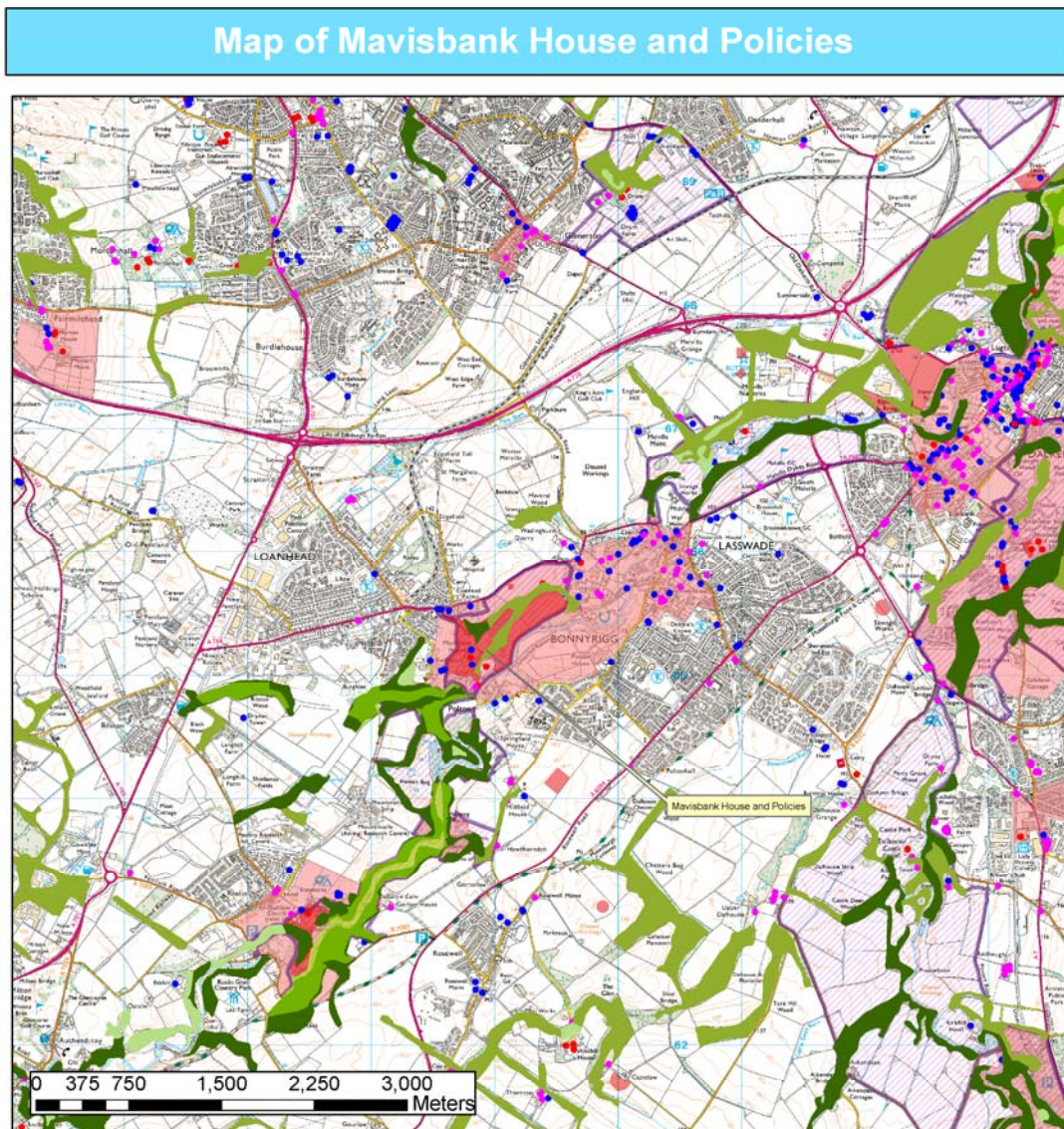
Table 1: Plans, programmes, strategies and environmental objectives to be analysed in the Environmental Report for their relationship with the Mavisbank House Policies Management Plan

Name of PPS/ environmental protection objective	Relevance of Document for Mavisbank House Policies Management Plan	Key messages:
International		
European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised 1992)	The Management Plan will seek to protect archaeological heritage where it is present.	Aims to protect archaeological heritage and describes archaeological heritage as including structures, constructions, groups of buildings, developed sites, moveable objects, monuments of other kinds as well as their context, whether situated on land or under water.
European Landscape Convention (signed by the UK Government and ratified by the Council of Europe in 2006)	The Management Plan will seek to protect the landscape value of Mavisbank House Policies.	Promotes the protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe. Highlights the importance and need for public involvement in the development of landscapes. Encourages a joined-up approach through policy and planning in all areas of land-use, development and management, including the recognition of landscape in law.
EU Birds Directive 1979 (74/409/EEC)	The Management Plan will seek to protect wild birds and their habitats on the site.	Protection of wild birds and their habitats, including through designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs).
Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora Directive (2/43/EEC)	Where relevant the Management Plan will have regard to the principles outlined in the Directive.	Duty to protect natural habitats and species other than birds. Includes provisions to designate Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) as part of the Natura 2000 network.
National		
Making a difference for Scotland's Species: A Framework for Action 2007	Where relevant, the management plan will have regard to the principles outlined.	Sets out principles for deciding when and how to manage species, and identifies priorities for action.
Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the protection of scheduled monuments.	Sets out how Scheduled Monuments should be protected.
Scottish Planning Policy	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the	Sets out the aims of the planning system and

	protection of environmental topics.	national policies on development topics including historic environment, natural environment, water, open space etc.
Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP)	Actions identified in the plan to conform to Ministerial policy for protection and enhancement of the historic environment.	Sets out Scottish Ministers' policies for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment.
Creating Our Future: Minding Our Past, Scotland's National Cultural Strategy (Scottish Executive 2000)	Where relevant, the management plan will have regard to the actions for cultural development	Sets out a framework of action by the Scottish Government for Scotland's cultural life, including heritage. Identifies a wide range of complementary actions to take forward cultural development in all areas.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	Actions identified in the plan to have regard to national aims for protection of biodiversity.	Gives protection to listed species from disturbance, injury, intentional destruction or sale.
Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the protection of biodiversity. The Management Plan will seek to protect the SSSI's which lie in the vicinity of the site.	Sets out a series of measures which are designed to conserve biodiversity and to protect and enhance the biological, geological and natural heritage of Scotland. Includes a duty on public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity; also protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest and threatened species.
Scottish Biodiversity Strategy	Actions identified in the plan to have regard to national aims for protection of biodiversity.	Sets out a vision for the future health of our biodiversity and maps out a 25 year framework for action to conserve and enhance biodiversity Scotland's contribution to meeting the Convention on Biological Diversity.
Scottish Tourism: The Next Decade	Where relevant the management plan will contribute to sustainable development principles.	Sets priorities for tourism.
Changing our Ways: Scotland's Climate Change Programme	Actions identified in the plan to have regard to the consideration of projected effects of climate change.	Updates original Climate Change Programme (2000) Key elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term vision • Quantifying Scotland's equitable contribution in carbon terms and setting a Scottish Target

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrating achievements so far • Setting out new actions and future directions across the main sectors responding to the inevitable consequences of climate change
Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2006	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the policies contained within the Act and regs.	Implementing legislation to achieve the requirements of the Water Framework Directive
Regional and Local		
The Edinburgh and the Lothians Structure Plan	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the policies contained within the Edinburgh and the Lothians Structure Plan.	Sets the strategic framework for investment and decision making in Edinburgh and the Lothians.
Midlothian Local Plan 2008	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the policies and guidance contained within the Midlothian Local Plan.	Together with the Structure Plan, the Local Plan provides the statutory development plan for the Midlothian area, outlining the development and land use strategy for the area, details planning policy and provides guidance.
Midlothian Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the objectives contained within the LBAP.	Sets out objectives and actions to help improve, enhance, protect and maintain habitats in Midlothian for biodiversity.
Midlothian Core Paths Plan 2009 (CPP)	Actions identified in the plan to have regard for the objectives contained within the CPP.	The plan provides a system of paths sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area.
Natural Heritage Futures Initiative (SNH)	Actions identified in the plan will have regard for the integrated management approach advocated in the initiative.	Promotes integrated management of the natural heritage across six themes, applied to 21 bio-geographical areas. Midlothian is within area of Eastern Lowlands (16).
Springfield Mill Local Wildlife Site Management Plan (Mid Lothian Council)	Actions within the plan will have regard for this local wildlife site and will promote linkage between the sites through public access and will enhance where appropriate these linkages from a natural and cultural heritage perspective.	The plan aims to promote Springfield Mill as a key site within the Esk Valley for the benefit of people and wildlife in such a way as to ensure it provides one of Midlothian's best places to experience the natural environment.

Figure 1: Map of the site showing environmental assets



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