APPENDIX 6 – SURVEYS (BACKGROUND AND RESPONDENT PROFILES)

Surveys

Four surveys were conducted between October 4th 2010 and 3rd December 2010 to secure SEA practitioner and interest group views on the performance of SEA in Scotland. 111[1] respondents expressed their views on one of these surveys. Four separate surveys were established in recognition that different interest groups would be able to answer different sets of questions. For example, it was necessary to distinguish those practitioners who had done an SEA (and could therefore answer questions about the process of preparing an Environmental Report for example) from those who were more focused around engaging SEA processes as a stakeholder (and who could answer questions about how they viewed the process as one being consulted). Many questions were, however, common across all four surveys, meaning that analysis of some question responses could be across all respondents. The four surveys are set out in Appendices 7 to 10. Figures 1 to 4 below provide a summary of their content and a profile of those completing each survey:

Figure 1

SEA PRACTITIONERS (IN HOUSE)	
Description / Content	**Profile of Respondents**
Aimed at those within a Responsible Authority who had authored SEA documents. **Question Areas:** **PART 1** - Basic information about you / the plan (for part 2 questions) **PART 2** – Your experiences (using a nominated PPS): a. The SEA Process: • Screening • Baseline Data • Scoping • Environmental Report Preparation • Considering SEA Topics • Post Adoption b. Stakeholder Engagement c. Consultation Authority Liaison d. SEA Guidance	**Number of Respondents**: 41 **Position Held (3 skipped question):** • Designated SEA Officer – 37% • Environmental Policy Officer – 21% • Subject Specific (eg air) Officer - 19% • Other – 23% **Experience (1 skipped question)** • Very experienced (several SEAs) – 30% • Some experience (one or more SEAs) – 20% • Some limited experience – 10% • This plan was first time – 40% **RA type:** • Local Authority – 61% • Group of LAs – 5% • NDPB – 7% • Other public body – 2% • Partnership of public bodies – 7% • Scottish Government – 10% • Other – 7% **Nominated PPSs**:

[1] *Not all respondents answered every question and some did not 100% complete the survey. Accordingly, the total number of respondents answering each question varies. Where appropriate, the total number of respondents has been noted.*

e. Influence of SEA over decision making f. Integration with Habitats Regulations Assessment **PART 3** – Overall Perception of SEA in Scotland **PART 4** – How can we deliver improvements?	• Spatial plans – 16 • Energy plans – 3 • Core Path Plans – 4 • Open Space Plans – 4 • Housing – 2 • Transport – 2 • Other – 10 **SEA undertaken mostly in:** 2010 – 44% 2009 – 42% 2008 – 12% 2006 – 2%

Figure 2

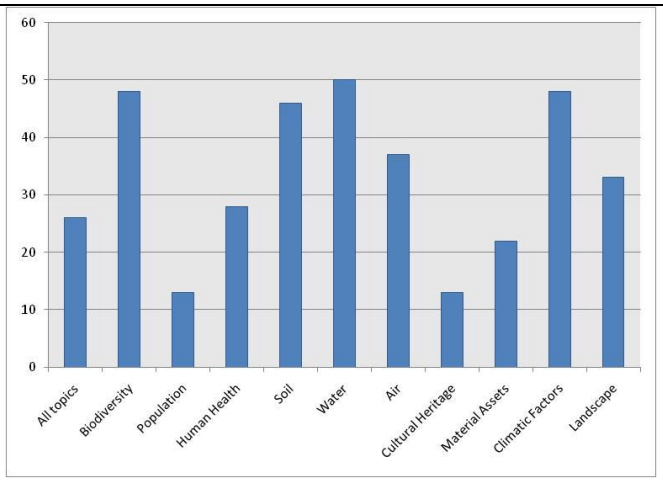
SEA PRACTITIONERS (CONSULTANTS)	
Description / Content	**Profile of Respondents**
Aimed at consultants who were appointed by Responsible Authorities to author SEA documents. Question Areas: **Part 1** - Basic information about you / the plan (for part 2 questions) **Part 2** – Your experiences (using a nominated plan): a. The SEA Process: Screening Baseline Data Scoping Environmental Report Preparation Considering SEA Topics Post Adoption b. Stakeholder Engagement c. Consultation Authority Liaison d. SEA Guidance e. Influence of SEA over decision making f. Integration with Habitats Regulations Assessment **Part 3** – Overall Perception of SEA in Scotland **Part 4** – How can we deliver improvements?	**Number of Respondents**: 7 **Commissioned by:** • Local Authority – 57% • NDPB – 14% • Other – 29% **Nominated PPSs**: • Transport – 2 • Spatial Planning – 1 • Open Space / Core Path – 2 • Other – 2 **Approx value of commissions:** Average between £10 and £25k per PPS **SEA undertaken mostly in:** 2010 – 14% 2009 – 57% 2008 – 14% 2007 – 14%

Figure 3

PLAN MAKERS / DECISION TAKERS	
Description / Content	**Profile of Respondents**
Aimed at those who did not author SEA documents, but who were primarily responsible for preparing a plan for which an SEA was conducted. For example, this included Local / Strategic Development Plan managers. Question areas: **Part 1** - Basic information about you / the plan (for part 2 questions) **Part 2** – Influence of SEA over decision making –your experiences (using a nominated plan) **Part 3** – How can we deliver improvements? **Part 4** – Overall perception of SEA in Scotland.	**Number of Respondents**: 16 **RA type:** • Local Authority – 44% • Group of LAs – 6% • NDPB – 6% • Partnership of public bodies – 6% • Scottish Government – 31% • Other – 6% **Nominated PPSs**: • Spatial plans – 6 • Government Policy – 4 • Core Path Plans / Open Space – 3 • Other – 3 **SEA was conducted:** • Fully in house – 63% • By contractors – 19% • Partly in house/partly contractors – 13% • Other – 6% **SEA undertaken mostly in:** 2010 – 56% 2009 – 13% 2008 – 19% 2007 – 6% 2006 – 6%

Figure 4

GENERAL SURVEY	
Description / Content	**Profile of Respondents**
This was aimed at stakeholders who did not author SEA documents but who engage in the SEA process by providing views on the plans and the SEAs. This survey included representatives from the statutory Consultation Authorities. Question areas: **Part 1** – Basic information about you / your organisation **Part 2** – Stakeholder engagement in SEA – Your experiences	**Number of Respondents**: 47 **Representing:** • Local Authority – 6% • Statutory CA – 43% • NGO – 19% • NDPB – 15% • Academia – 6% • Scottish Government – 4% • Other public body – 2% • Private individual – 2% **SEA topics most of interest (%)**:

Part 3 – Influence of SEA over plan content / decision making **Part 4** – Overall perception of SEA in Scotland **Part 5** – How can we deliver improvements?	 **Experience in SEA:** • Very experienced, been involved in many SEA consultations – 32% • Some experience, been involved in a few consultations – 51% • Awareness of SEA requirements, but only a little practice – 15% • Little experience – 2%