

Water for life and livelihoods



Dee River Basin Management Plan

Strategic Environmental
Assessment scoping document
A consultation

On 1 April 2013, Natural Resources Wales brought together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of the Welsh Government.

Our purpose is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably maintained, used and enhanced, now and in the future.

We will work for the communities of Wales to protect people and their homes as much as possible from environmental incidents like flooding and pollution. We will provide opportunities for them to learn, use and benefit from Wales' natural resources

We will work for Wales' economy and enable the sustainable use of natural resources to support jobs & enterprise. We will help businesses and developers to understand and consider environmental limits when they make important decisions.

We will work to maintain and improve the quality of the environment for everyone. We will work towards making the environment and natural resources more resilient to climate change and other pressures.

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Contents

1	WHY ARE WE DOING A STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT?	4
2	FOCUSING ON KEY ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS	5
3	PROVIDING A STRATEGIC CONTEXT.....	5
4	KEY ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS	5
	The Dee River Basin District.....	7
5	HOW WE WILL UNDERTAKE THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT?	11
6	COMMUNICATING THE RESULTS	12
	Your views	13
	How to respond.....	13
	What Natural Resources Wales will use the responses for	13
	How Natural Resources Wales will use your information	14
	APPENDIX A: POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	15

1 Why are we doing a strategic environmental assessment?

The primary purpose of a strategic environmental assessment is to develop a plan that delivers better environmental outcomes. By working alongside the development of the plan, the assessment can prompt changes that reduce any negative environmental effects and make the most of the benefits people receive from the environment.

The Dee River Basin District Challenges and Choices consultation document has been published to gather information on the most significant water management issues and the possible actions to address them. This will be used to inform the review and updating of the River Basin Management Plan. For the Dee River Basin District the most significant water management issues have been identified as being related to:

- Physical modifications
- Pollution from sewage and waste water
- Pollution from rural areas
- Pollution from mines

The plan for protecting and improving the water environment can have intended or unintended consequences for people or the wider environment. These may be positive, for example by improving recreational opportunities in an area; or may be negative, for example they could risk harming historic features.

We will use the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment' to influence the development of the River Basin Management Plan to make the most of positive outcomes that can arise from improving the water environment, and help to avoid or reduce the negative effects.

We also undertake a strategic environmental assessment to fulfil the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (known as the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations').

We are taking this opportunity to consult on the scope of the Strategic Environmental Assessment as a first step to influencing the plan. This will help us to learn more of the information we should be taking into consideration and understand which key environmental effects of the plan are of concern.

Section 6 sets out how you can provide comments on this document and includes two consultation questions. To enable you to consider your response as you read this document, these are also provided below:

Consultation questions

1. Do you agree that we are focused on the key environmental effects?
2. Is there any other information that we should be taking into account as part of the assessment?

2 Focusing on key environmental effects

It would be a huge task to have to consider each and every environmental effect of implementing a plan for looking after water. We want to focus on those effects that are significant. By significant we mean that they would result in noticeable change (both positive and negative) to people's lives and the environment.

We want to focus on those effects that are important at the river basin district level and will affect the plan to improve the water environment. Further consideration will be given to the environmental effects of individual actions arising from the plan at a local level before they are implemented. When planning specific projects, there is greater scope to be more precise about the effects and the actions required to mitigate or manage them.

This document identifies the effects that we consider to be significant based on, amongst other things, our understanding of the Dee River Basin District and our experience of considering the effects of the River Basin Management Plan, published in December 2009. We have also set out the next steps in the process by outlining how we intend to undertake the assessment and report on the outcomes.

3 Providing a strategic context

In preparing to look after the water environment over the next six years there are a range of other policies, plans and programmes that we need to consider. These include those produced by the government, government agencies and local authorities. They could:

- Have a significant effect on the water environment and therefore we might need to think about how we adapt our plans
- Conflict with actions we want to include in the plan
- Inform us of key environmental issues that we should consider or provide additional environmental information
- Help us to identify opportunities to take action that benefits the objectives of more than one plan
- Help us to identify the potential cumulative effects of the plans

We have set out the plans that we consider to be relevant to the Dee River Basin District in Appendix A to this document.

We will be producing an Environmental Report to be published with the draft River Basin Management Plan, that will provide a brief commentary of the key issues arising from the plans, policies and programmes and how we have taken them into account.

4 Key environmental effects

Water environments provide a range of benefits which the River Basin Management Plans seek to protect and enhance, including economic, social and environmental benefits. There is a strong link between these benefits and the environmental factors that we will address as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment. Additionally, we will assess the significant effects on the wider environment.

The Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations set out a number of environmental factors to be considered during the assessment. Based on our experience of the first cycle of River Basin Management Plans, and our wider experience of trying to improve the water environment, we know that not all of these factors have an important relationship to the types of actions included in these plans. In our assessment we want to focus on those effects that are likely to be significant, whether positive or negative. The following table sets out the environmental effects referred to in the Regulations, indicates how these relate to the River Basin Management Plan and whether we intend to address the effect as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Where we propose to include an environmental topic in the assessment, the key effects listed in the table are not intended to be a comprehensive list of possible impacts, but simply to provide some justification for inclusion. In the text following Table 1, we have provided some background on the current environment and indicated how the key environmental effects more specifically apply to the Dee River Basin District.

The assessment will focus on those actions within the River Basin Management Plan that result in 'on the ground' activity such as, constructing / removing something, changes to land management or river restoration. Other types of actions may be more focused on promoting changes in behaviour of those that use the water environment. Examples could be, education campaigns, developing guidelines, etc. These are undoubtedly beneficial, but it is difficult to assess, with any certainty, whether these are likely to result in significant environmental effects. We therefore do not intend to consider these types of actions further in the assessment. The Environmental Report will be clear on which actions have been assessed and which effects are too uncertain to justify consideration.

Table 1: Scoping key environmental effects for the Strategic Environmental Assessment

Environmental topic	Key effects to consider	To be addressed by the SEA?
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on areas protected for their nature conservation value (e.g. European Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites and the nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest) • Effects on protected species and habitats associated with the water environment • Effects on and of species introduced from outside of the UK that are harmful to the environment • Effects on the wider protection and enhancement of biodiversity. 	Yes
Population and human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on the recreational use of water • Effects on growth, regeneration and tourism • Improving access to water environments and the associated health benefits • Effects on water abstracted for drinking water • Effects on water dependent industry, e.g. agriculture, energy and ports. 	Yes
Geology and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of polluted land on the water environment • Effects on areas of land vulnerable to erosion 	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on nitrate vulnerable zones • Effects on sites designated for geological interest • Influences on how land is managed. 	
Water¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on the shape and flow of water bodies • Effects on groundwater quality and quantity • Effects on bodies of water resulting from abstraction • Effects on the quality of coastal waters, including bathing waters • Relationship to flood risk management. 	Yes
Air	While individual actions may have a small localised impact on air quality, at a strategic level, it is very unlikely that the River Basin Management Plan would have a significant effect on air quality within the Dee River Basin District.	No
Climatic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation and adaptation for a changing climate • Flood risk • Changes in greenhouse gas emissions relating to water management. 	Yes
Material assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on water related infrastructure such as canals, hydro power plants, flood defences, ports and harbours, etc. 	Yes
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on sites designated for their historic importance • Effects on the wider historic environment associated with water bodies and mines. 	Yes
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on landscapes designated for their quality • Effects on wider landscape character and quality • Visual impacts on the landscape setting. 	Yes

The Dee River Basin District

Identifying the environmental effects that are likely to be significant for the Dee River Basin District requires an understanding of the nature of the existing environment. The Challenges and Choices document sets out the nature of the existing water environment and the factors that impact on the benefits people receive from it. We have supplemented this with additional information that considers the wider environment. For information on the latest Water Framework Directive classification results and other key statistics see the Dee River Basin District facts and statistics document. To view, please visit our information page.

The Dee River Basin District is the smallest in England and Wales. It covers an area of 2,251 square kilometres, from the mountains and lakes of Snowdonia National Park, to the internationally important mudflats of the Dee Estuary.

¹ The purpose of the River Basin Management Plan is to protect and improve the water environment. This should therefore result in a significant positive effect and therefore is required to be covered in the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

In the upper part of the river basin district, the dominant land uses are agriculture and forestry. Reservoirs here are used for water storage; regulating river flows, sustaining abstractions and helping to manage flood risk downstream to Chester (please refer to the Challenges and Choices document for further information).

The lower part of catchment supports the Cheshire Plains and Dee Estuary and is more populated; with Chester and Wrexham being the two major urban centres. Approximately half a million people live in the catchment in total.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

The Dee River Basin District supports varied wetland wildlife and the importance of wetland habitat is reflected by the number and variety of international and national nature conservation designations. Of the designations present, 7 of the Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and 3 of the Special Protection Areas (SPA) within the river basin district are water dependent. Many of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within the river basin district (approximately 70 in total) also have close links with the water environment.

The River Dee itself is designated a SAC and a SSSI. The interest features include Floating Water Plantain, Atlantic Salmon, Lamprey, Otter and fluvial geomorphology. The tidal Dee Estuary is also internationally important for nature conservation. As well as being a SAC and SSSI, it is also designated a SPA and a Ramsar wetland.

Water bodies and wetland areas within the Dee River Basin District support a number of protected species (such as Otters and Water Voles) and priority species listed in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (such as Freshwater White-clawed Crayfish and Fresh Water Pearl Mussel). Fish are also important and the highly modified nature of the River Dee has led to there being many barriers to fish migration (45 in total). Invasive species in the catchment include Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and North American Signal Crayfish.

Offshore, parts of the marine environment are protected as part of the Marine Protected Area network. This incorporates different levels of protection and including SPAs, SACs and SSSIs with marine components, as well as in the future; Marine Conservation Zones. The Hilbre Island Group within the Dee Estuary has been recommended as designation as one of the first Marine Conservation Zones.

Population and Human Health

The population of the Dee River Basin District is generally stable at around 500,000. There are some health inequalities evident, with generally more evidence of social deprivation in the urban areas.

The Dee River Basin District contains water and land based recreational resources which contribute to enhancing the quality of people's lives and human health. They also provide economic benefit. Tourism is a major part of the local economy, especially within Snowdonia National Park, Llangollen, Chester and Erddig near Wrexham.

The Dee is an important source of drinking water for nearly three million people, including many living outside of the river basin district.

Geology and Soils

The bedrock geology of the Dee River Basin District is generally characterised by sandstone and limestone. Stone quarries are concentrated in the sandstone outcrop between Wrexham and Llangollen and the sandstone on the Lower Dee is an important aquifer. Thick deposits of unconsolidated clays, sands and gravels occur throughout the river basin district and a wide range of minerals are extracted.

Within the Dee River Basin District there are a number of SSSIs designated for geology and earth science features.

Soil types in the river basin district are strongly influenced by topography. Soil quality has been adversely affected by inappropriate management, reliance on pesticide use and loss of nutrients and organic wastes from agricultural sources, all of which also impact on water quality.

Water

The groundwater and surface water bodies of the Dee River Basin District are subject to abstraction. The strategic importance of the Dee for water supply have led to it becoming one of the most regulated rivers in Europe, and it was designated as the first Water Protection Zone in 1999. Parts of the lower catchment are designated as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone for groundwater and surface water. (Please refer to the Challenges and Choices document for further information).

Climatic Factors

It is predicted that by the 2050s, temperatures across the Dee River Basin District could rise by between 1.2 and 4.4°C. Rainfall patterns are also predicted to be different than they are now. Changing climate impacts on water related issues such as decreased water availability and increased flood risk.

Material Assets

Infrastructure in the Dee River Basin District includes rail (such as the main line from Chester to Holyhead), roads (including the A55 and A483), energy infrastructure, canals, the Broughton airbase, ports (including the Port of Mostyn) and industrial and commercial development alongside the Dee Estuary. Sea fishing, salmon net fisheries, and cockle beds are important to the local economy. Recently there has been an increasing demand for hydropower, with a number of sites being investigated.

Sea defences line much of the estuary protecting homes, businesses, industry and farmland. There are small areas of Grade 1 and 2 agricultural land present on Cheshire Plains, and in the remainder of the river basin district, agricultural land of lower grades is found.

Coal (from the Flintshire coalfield) and metal mining has also been a part of the economy in the Dee River Basin District historically (although less than in other areas of Wales), which has left a legacy of pollution. Slate is worked north of Llangollen.

Although recycling rates have increased, continuing waste production and limited landfill site capacity within the Dee River Basin District means that waste management will remain an ongoing challenge. It is likely that some Local Authorities will find that they need to identify and establish sites for alternative waste treatment options to landfill.

Cultural Heritage

There are more than 400 Scheduled Monuments within the Dee River Basin District, as well as numerous sites of historical or archaeological importance (e.g. Listed Buildings, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens) and five landscapes listed on the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales. Of particular importance to this plan is the heritage value of the canal network which includes the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site.

Many structures such as mills, bridges, weirs and sluices within the river basin district have listed status or are of local historic importance and therefore removing them to aid fish passage can have negative cultural heritage impacts. The legacy of mining in the catchment has impacted water quality, but surviving mine features may also be important for their heritage value.

Archaeological features associated with the flood plain and land saturated by groundwater can be put at risk from drying out, erosion or inundation.

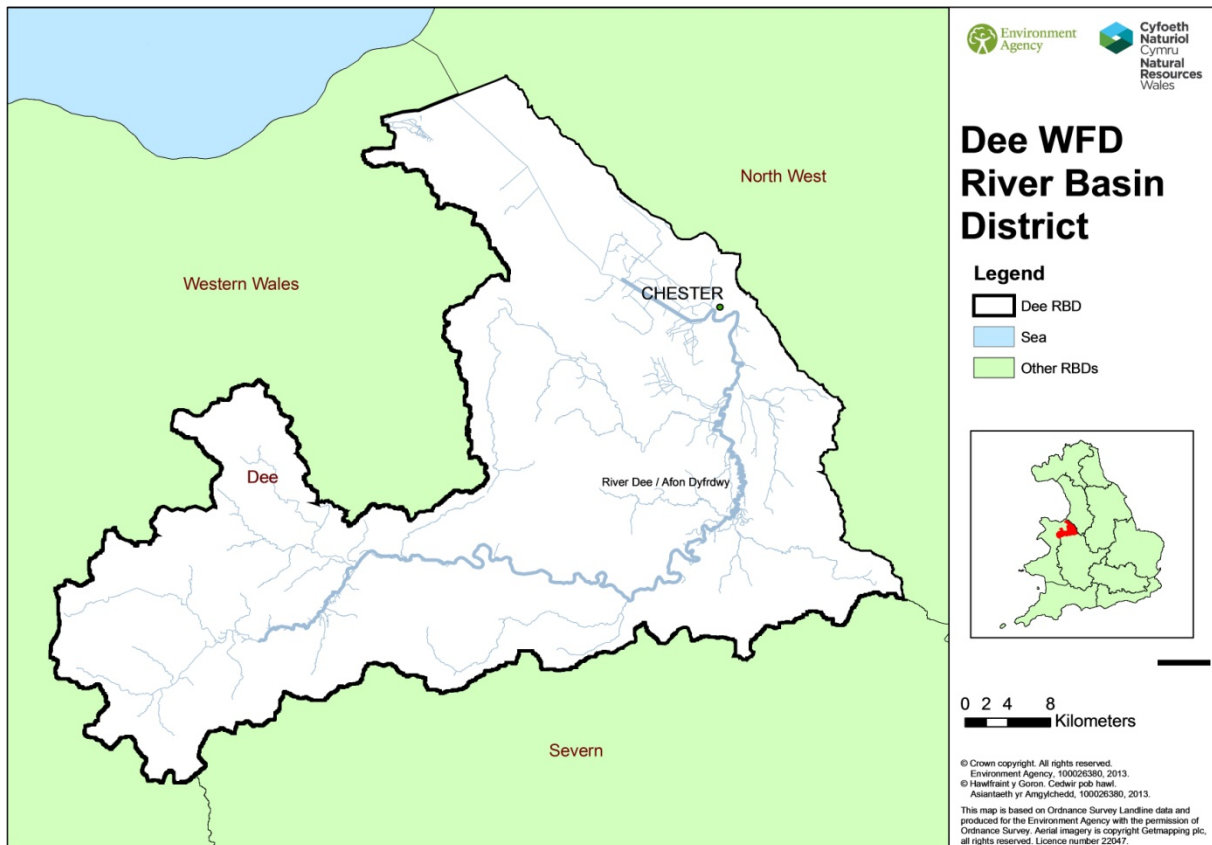
Landscape

The landscape of the Dee River Basin District varies considerably, as does land use. Agriculture and forestry dominate in the upper catchment and there are a variety of landscape and settlement patterns. The upper catchment includes part of Snowdonia National Park and is predominantly rural in character. In the middle to lower catchment, the landscape changes to rolling hill slopes that gradually form the Cheshire plain. In this lower part of the catchment, urban development has had a significant impact upon the river system and many river channels and flood plains no longer function naturally. There is one Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) on a portion of the north-western boundary of the catchment; the Clwydian Range.

When considering the choices for river basin management planning, the following are examples of aspects that should be taken into account:

- The potential influence of changes to water management on the condition of designated nature conservation sites.
- The potential for effects on water dependent protected/priority species, and opportunities to enhance or create habitat.
- The presence of invasive species and how we can help to prevent their spread and address the issues caused by these species.
- Health and wellbeing can be improved through greater access to water and the natural environment, and there may be opportunities to enhance recreation.
- Geology and soils are important when trying to predict the effects of a changing climate on river flows.
- Actions to improve and restore water bodies may have implications for future mineral extraction. Similarly, the extent of future mineral extraction is likely to continue to influence the water environment.
- A changing climate will have impacts on the water environment and there will be subsequent consequences on population, land use and amenity.
- There will be increased demands on water supply, sanitation provision, drainage systems for urban runoff, flood defences, waste management and other key infrastructure as a result of a growing population.
- Changing the way we manage the water environment can potentially effects agriculture and food production. Much agricultural land is within the floodplain.
- Changes to the management of the water environment can have impacts on cultural heritage and archaeology.
- Important landscapes and the water environment are often closely linked.

Figure 1. Map of the Dee River Basin District



The Environmental Report, to be published with the draft River Basin Management Plan, will provide additional information about the environment. The Dee River Basin District is relatively large and so, our description will be at a strategic level.

5 How we will undertake the strategic environmental assessment?

The Strategic Environmental assessment is being undertaken alongside the development of options to improve the water environment. It will determine the environmental impact of these and in particular will focus on the effects of the benefits provided by the environment. This same assessment approach will be used to select the proposed packages of measures in the draft plan. In this way we will ensure that effects on the wider environment are taken into consideration and that the assessment influences the selection of options.

In the assessment, we will pay particular attention to the effects on those elements of the environment that have international or national designations (e.g. protected species, Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Parks or World Heritage Sites). Where sites of international importance for biodiversity could be affected (Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar Sites) we will undertake a separate assessment required by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010), as amended.

We will identify whether there is a risk of an accumulation of effects on a particular environmental aspect (such as historical features) or in a particular location. These could

arise as a result of several different actions within the plan or a combination of effects with other plans and programmes.

We will focus on those effects that are significant at a strategic river basin district level and will assume that other assessments at the catchment or project level (such as project environmental impact assessments) focus on more localised impacts. We will not assess those impacts that are of a temporary nature, where the duration of the effect is within the river basin management planning period (6 years).

The scale and complexity of this plan means that it is not possible to provide definitive criteria to determine the significance of an impact. However, an indication of the characteristic of significant impacts can be provided and it should be remembered that these can be beneficial or adverse:

- Impacts that would occur in several locations across a river basin district
- Impacts that are likely to result in an adverse effect on the integrity of features of national or international value or will demonstrably increase the extent or improve the value of such features
- Impacts that are likely to conflict with environmental legal objectives, targets or duties
- Impacts that are likely to result in a demonstrable change in the health and/or social or economic well-being of communities.

6 Communicating the results

The draft River Basin Management Plan will be published in June 2014. This will be accompanied by an Environmental Report that sets out the results of the Strategic Environmental Assessment. This will:

- Provide information on the current condition of the environmental factors that could be affected
- Outline how the plans and programmes we have reviewed could affect the River Basin Management Plan for looking after water
- Provide a commentary on how the Strategic Environmental Assessment has been integrated with, and has influenced, the development of the River Basin Management Plan
- Set out the strategic options that will have been evaluated and the reasons for the selection of the proposed approach
- Set out the environmental effects of the draft River Basin Management Plan
- Indicate additional mitigation or management measures that can be taken to further improve the environmental outcomes, but were not considered appropriate to incorporate into the River Basin Management Plan
- A description of the monitoring proposed to identify any unforeseen adverse effects

This Environmental Report will be available for comment with the draft River Basin Management Plan for a period of 6 months. We will use the comments and information provided to revise the plan and consider how our evaluation of the environmental effects might have changed.

Your views

This scoping document is available for consultation together with the Dee River Basin District 'Challenges and Choices' consultation document for a period of 6 months to 22 December 2013. We would like to hear your views on the key environmental effects that you think we should consider and why. We would also like you to tell us of any other information that you have or know of that you think we should consider.

We will take your comments into account when further refining our approach to the Strategic Environmental Assessment. Any comments received will be incorporated into the summary of responses published for the 'Challenges and choices' consultation.

Consultation questions

1. Do you agree that we are focused on the key environmental effects?
2. Is there any other information that we should be taking into account as part of the assessment?

How to respond

Natural Resources Wales and the Environment Agency would prefer you to respond to this consultation by email at: ardalbasnafondyfrdwy@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk / deerbd@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Please complete the questions proforma on our information page, this will allow you to make your comments more effectively, while helping us to gather and summarise responses quickly and accurately. However, if you want to respond in another way, please contact your regional contact for the Dee River Basin District, below.

You can view the consultation documents and consultation questions online. But, if you would prefer a printed version of the document, please call 0300 065 3000.

Please return written responses by 22 December 2013 to:

Jill Brown
Natural Resources Wales
29 Newport Road
Cardiff
CF24 0TP

What Natural Resources Wales will use the responses for

Natural Resources Wales will use the responses from this consultation to shape the approach to the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Dee River Basin Management Plan. Natural Resources staff dealing with this consultation will see all responses in full. Other staff may also see the responses to help them plan future consultations.

A full summary of the responses will be published on the Natural Resources Wales website.

How Natural Resources Wales will use your information

Natural Resources Wales will make all comments (apart from personal information) publicly available on the Natural Resources Wales website. This includes comments received online, by email, post and by fax, unless you have specifically requested that your response be kept confidential. Only names of organisations that respond and not individuals will be published.

If you provide an email address, you will receive an acknowledgement of your response. After the consultation has closed, a summary of the responses will be published on the Natural Resources Wales website. You will be contacted to let you know when this is available. You will also be notified of any forthcoming river basin consultations unless you request otherwise.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Natural Resources Wales may be required to publish your response to this consultation, but will not include any personal information. If you have requested your response be kept confidential, it may still be required to provide a summary.

If you have any questions or complaints about the way this consultation has been carried out, please contact:

Jill Brown
Natural Resources Wales
29 Newport Road
Cardiff
CF24 0TP

Appendix A: Policies, plans and programmes to be considered by the Strategic Environmental Assessment

Table 1 sets out the national plans, policies and programmes, and Table 2 those that are only relevant to the catchment or river basin district. Rather than identify every possible plan or programme we intend to focus on those that are likely to significantly influence the plan or our consideration of the environmental effects.

Table 1: National plans, policies and programmes to be considered in the Strategic Environmental Assessment

Policy / Plan / Programme	Published by	Year
Water white paper: Water for life	Defra	2011
Water for people and the environment: Water resources strategy for England and Wales including the North West Action Plan (associated with above)	Environment Agency	2009
Water for people and the environment: Water resources strategy for Wales	Environment Agency Wales (now Natural Resources Wales)	2013
National Planning Policy Framework	Communities & local government	2012
Natural environment white paper: The natural choice: Securing the value of nature	Defra	2012
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services	Defra	2012
Government Forestry & Woodlands Policy Statement	Defra	2013
The invasive and non-native species framework strategy for Great Britain	Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government	2008
Coastal squeeze: Implications for flood management. The requirements of The European Birds and Habitats Directives. Defra policy guidance.	Defra	2005
Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England	Defra	2009
Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England	Defra & Environment Agency	2011
Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national	Welsh Government	2011

flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for Wales		
UK Marine Policy Statement	HMG, NI Executive, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government	2011
National Policy Statements (Overarching Energy, Renewable Energy, Fossil Fuels, Oil and Gas Supply and Storage, Electricity Networks, Nuclear Power, Ports, Hazardous Waste, Waste Water Treatment)	HMG,	2011-12
Technical Advice Notes (Nature Conservation and Planning, Tourism, Development and Flood Risk, Transport, Waste, Renewable Energy, Coastal Planning)	Welsh Assembly Government	Various
The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010	HMG	2010
All Landscapes Matter	Natural England	2009
Planning Policy Wales	Welsh Government	2012
People, Places, Future – The Wales Spatial Plan	Welsh Assembly Government	2008
Environment Strategy for Wales	Welsh Assembly Government	2006
Wales Biodiversity Framework	Wales Biodiversity Partnership	2010
Drought Plans (Wales and NW England)	Environment Agency and Environment Agency Wales	2012
Sustaining a Living Wales: A Green Paper on a New Approach to Natural Resource Management in Wales	Welsh Government	2012
Wales Fisheries Strategy	Welsh Assembly Government	2008
Proposed Tourism Strategy for Wales (Tourism 2020)	Welsh Government	In consultation
Climbing Higher – The Welsh Government's 20 year strategy for sport and physical activity in Wales	Welsh Assembly Government	2005
Metal Mines Strategy for Wales	Environment Agency Wales	2002
Wales Soils Action Plan (Consultation)	Welsh Assembly Government	2008
Emerging Water Strategy for Wales	Welsh Government	

Welsh Government Strategic Policy Position on Water	Welsh Government	2011
Low Carbon Wales	Welsh Assembly Government	2010
Climate Change Strategy for Wales	Welsh Assembly Government	2010
Low Carbon Revolution – the Welsh Government Energy Policy Statement	Welsh Assembly Government	2010
Preparing Wales for Climate Change. Energy Wales A Low Carbon Transition	Welsh Government	2012
Minerals Planning Policy Wales	National Assembly for Wales	2001
Minerals Planning Guidance Notes	Welsh Assembly Government	Various
Farming, Food and Countryside: Building a Secure future – A New Strategy for Farming	Welsh Assembly Government	2009
Wales Transport Strategy	Welsh Assembly Government	2008
National Waste Strategy for Wales: Towards Zero Waste 2009- 2050	Welsh Assembly Government	2010
Rural Development Plan for Wales (2007- 2013 and 2014-2020)	Welsh Government	2010
Woodland Strategy for Wales	Forestry Commission Wales	2009
Valuing the Welsh Historic Environment	Valuing Our Environment Partnership	2010
Making the Most of Wales’ Coast: The ICMZ Management Strategy for Wales	Welsh Assembly Government	2007
Wales Sustainable Development Scheme: One Wales, One Planet	Welsh Assembly Government	2009
Emerging Welsh Marine Spatial Plan	Welsh Government	

When identifying plans, policies and programmes relevant to the Dee River Basin District, we have concentrated on those plans that are similar in scale to the Dee River Basin Management Plan or are likely to directly impact on the catchments within the Dee River Basin District. We anticipate that as plans and projects are developed within the framework provided by the River Basin Management Plan, the implications of any local plans will also be considered.

Table 2: Plans, policies and programmes relevant to the Dee River Basin District

Policy / Plan / Programme	Published by	Year
Unitary Development Plans, Local Development Plans, Core Strategies (Snowdonia National Park Authority, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Conwy, Wrexham, Shropshire, Cheshire West and Chester, Flintshire, Wirral)	Local Authorities - Various	Various
Minerals and Waste Plans	Local Authorities - Various	Various
Snowdonia National Park Management Plan 2010-15	Snowdonia National Park Authority	2010
Shoreline Management Plan 22 Great Ormes Head to Scotland (North West England and North Wales)	North West England and North Wales Coastal Group partnership	2011
Heritage at Risk Register 2012: North West	English Heritage	2012
The Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2009 – 2014	Clwydian Range AONB	2009
Tourism Strategy for North Wales 2010-2015	Tourism Partnership North Wales	2010
Dee Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS)(Water Abstraction Getting the Balance Right)	Environment Agency Wales	2008
Tidal Dee Flood Risk Management Strategy	Environment Agency Wales	2010
River Dee Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan	Environment Agency Wales and Environment Agency	2009
Surface Water Management Plans (England)	Lead Local Flood Authorities	Various
Surface Water Management Strategies (Wales)		
Water Resources Management Plans	Water Companies - Welsh Water, Dee Valley and United Utilities	Various
Drought Plans	Water Companies - Welsh Water, Dee Valley and United Utilities	Various
Eel Management plans for the United Kingdom: Dee River Basin District	Defra	2010
North Wales Regional Waste Plan	North Wales Regional Waste Group	2009
The River Dee / Afon Dyfrdwy Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Restoration Plan	Natural Resources Wales, Natural England	2013 (TBC)

Dee Catchment Salmon Action Plan	Environment Agency Wales	1997
Regional Transport Strategies (England)	Local Authorities	Various
Creating a Better Place 2010-15 North West Local Contribution	Environment Agency	2010
Water Resources Strategy: Regional Action Plan for North West Region	Environment Agency	2009