

Examples of typical mitigation and enhancement measures for soil

| Level of Plan | Environmental Effect on sub-topic NOTE: List all likely significant environmental effects identified through the SEA; both beneficial and detrimental effects. NB: There may be neutral, uncertain and minimal effects of the Plan which may provide opportunities for enhancement. | Typical mitigation/ enhancement measures for sub-topic NOTE: Explore a range of measures to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance beneficial effects, • Mitigate against detrimental effects, and • Enhance any neutral, uncertain and minimal effects (all the non-significant effects). |
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| Soil quality | | |
| Regional Plan | Increase in levels of pesticides and fertilisers in soil due to an intensification of agriculture practices. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote organic agriculture. • Promote adherence to good practice for soil/ land management. • Consider limiting the use of pesticides and fertilisers in sensitive areas. |
| Soil contamination | | |
| Local Plan | Increase in exposure to residual contamination from historical heavy industry due to re-development on a port area. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that adequate remediation is undertaken on contaminated sites commensurate to their proposed end uses. • Place sensitive development sites (e.g. residential housing) in areas containing the least contamination. |
| Soil sealing | | |
| National Plan | Increase in soil sealing levels due to pressures to provide land for development associated with national housing targets. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentrate key development areas on brownfield and urban fringe locations. • Restore previously sealed land into open space to resume its original interaction between soil, water and air. |
| Local Plan | Loss of soils containing archaeological features due to increase in soil sealing caused by development in the area of an historic settlement. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key archaeological/ cultural features and avoid adverse effect through appropriate consideration within the planning process. |

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| Soil erosion | | |
| National Plan | Increased risk of soil erosion associated with a significant increase in large-scale forestry in the country. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote adherence to good practice for land/ soil management. • Halting soil erosion by establishing woodland on vulnerable slopes. |
| Soil structural degradation & compaction | | |
| National Plan | Increases in localised structural degradation/ compaction of soils due to increased visitor numbers in rural and wilderness locations associated with the national tourism policy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan/ promote economic activity (e.g. public visits) in areas that are less sensitive to the effects of increased soil structure degradation and compaction. • Enhance soil structure through long-term grassland or forestry following good management practices. • Assess soil structure degradation and compaction issues in lower level Plans and in the design of existing/ planned infrastructure for rural tourism activities. |

Note: This table provides a framework to illustrate how this guidance could be used.