

Examples of typical mitigation and enhancement measures for water

Level of Plan	Environmental effect	Typical mitigation/ enhancement measures
	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.	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).
Water Pollution		
National Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower level Plans and projects may cause significant effects on water Increased timber production activities likely to cause release of phosphate during forestry operations into sensitive ecosystems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental assessments at regional, local and project levels should be undertaken to ensure that effects on the water environment are minimised. Avoid establishing new plantations in areas that are less sensitive to intensive forestry practices e.g. away from highly sensitive upland lakes/ lochs. Ensure that all forestry activities are carried out in accordance with the Forest & Water Guidelines.
Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for increased incidences of pollution affecting watercourses that leads to negative effects upon high quality protected marine, coastal and inland standing waters Overloading of current wastewater treatment works leading to increased incidences of sewage contamination/ overflow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the effects on marine, coastal and inland waters of individual development proposals. Phase development of water supply and waste water treatment infrastructure. Promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in tender applications.
Water Resources		
National Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for a significant increase in irrigation for crops to lead to unsustainable abstraction rates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote/ develop crops varieties that do not require significant irrigation. Provide training to farmers to optimise use of water through irrigation practices and technologies.

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Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased populations will lead to increased water demand that could outweigh current capacity levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake capacity studies for local water supply and treatment including SUDS. Phase development of water supply and waste water treatment infrastructure.
Hydromorphology		
National Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morphological changes associated with flooding and flood defences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable flood management to minimise changes caused by flooding and avoid requirement of flood defences. This can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catchment level planning of flood management measures; 'Natural' flood management measures including utilising floodplains and wetlands as natural flood storage areas; and Integration of rural land use and flood management policies and funding.
Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morphological changes associated with historical engineering structures (e.g. weirs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River and/ or lake/ loch shoreline restoration including remedial works where structures are part of an existing water management Plan (water supply or hydropower) and improvements as part of river maintenance work (e.g. reviewing sediment management for drainage or flood defence). This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of hard bank reinforcement/ revetment, or replacement with soft engineering solution; Enhance ecological value of banks; Restore/ reconnect historic aquatic habitats; Operational and structural changes to weirs/ dams; Installation of fish passes; Increase in-channel morphological diversity; Bank rehabilitation.
Flooding		
Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased demand for development land may lead to development in flood risk areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct future development away from flood plain areas, as part of a fundamental approach to planning. Undertake a flood risk study to identify the areas that are least vulnerable to flooding. Where building on flood plains does occur, ensure flooding risk is incorporated into building design.

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