

Examples of useful indicators for monitoring effects on soil	
Headline SEA objective: To Improve soil quality and reduce sources of key pollutants	
SEA Sub-objective	Example indicators
To conserve, or reduce loss of, soil organic matter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface area affected by loss of soil organic matter within Plan area (e.g. hectares) • Rate of soil organic matter lost within Plan area (e.g. tonnes/ year) • Area of peat within Plan area (e.g. hectares)
To reduce levels of soil contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of statutorily contaminated land within Plan area (e.g. hectares) • Surface area of soils affected by acidification associated with deposition of air pollutants (e.g. hectares) • Concentration of organic contaminants within Plan area (e.g. mg.kg⁻¹) • Concentration of heavy metal pollutants in soils within Plan area (e.g. mg.kg⁻¹)
To reduce soil sealing and soil loss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface area of land sealed within Plan area (e.g. hectares per year) • Surface area of soils lost to mineral workings within Plan area (e.g. hectares per year)
To reduce soil erosion (including landslides)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topsoil losses due to erosion within Plan area (e.g. tonnes per year) • Surface area affected by subsidence/ instability within Plan area • Number of landslides within Plan area (occurrences per year)
To reduce structural degradation and compaction of soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulk density of soils (particularly agricultural land) within Plan area (e.g. g/cm³) • Air porosity of soils (particularly agricultural land) within Plan area

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