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| Issue 19 | Maximising Green Network Benefits | |
| Development plan reference: | Section 8 City Region as a Natural, Resilient Place | Reporter: |
| Body or person(s) submitting a representation raising the issue (including reference number): | | |
| SEPA (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) (PP23) North Ayrshire Council (PP32) | | |
| Provision of the development plan to which the issue relates: | | |
| Maximising Green Network Benefits through Integrated Green Infrastructure (pages 72-75) Policy 12 Green Network and Green Infrastructure (page 73) | | |
| Planning Authority's summary of the representation(s): | | |
| <p><u>SEPA (PP23)</u></p> <p>The Plan includes no direct reference to protecting carbon rich soils, including peat. Whilst the value of protecting these valuable habitats is highlighted in the accompanying Background Report 3 on Climate Change Adaption (Figure 5, page 17) (RSD20), it is recommended that this matter is considered within the Strategic Development Plan itself.</p> <p><u>North Ayrshire Council (PP32)</u></p> <p>Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network and woodland planting should seek to integrate with the Central Scotland Green Network*, including North Ayrshire, which continues to be recognised as a National Development within National Planning Framework 3 (RSD02).</p> <p>(*refer to Issue 20 Forestry and Woodland Schedule 4 for the Clydeplan response to the woodland issue raised here)</p> | | |
| Modifications sought by those submitting representations: | | |
| <p><u>SEPA (PP23)</u></p> <p>Insert reference to the protection of carbon rich soils, including peat.</p> <p><u>North Ayrshire Council (PP32)</u></p> <p>Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network and woodland planting should seek to integrate with the Central Scotland Green Network, including North Ayrshire, which continues to be recognised as a National Development within National Planning Framework 3.</p> | | |

Summary of responses (including reasons) by Planning Authority:

SEPA (PP23)

Clydeplan does not accept the modification as it considers the protection of carbon rich soils, including peat, is integral to the processes behind the identification of suitable areas for development as considered in the Proposed Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment: Updated Environmental Report, Appendix D (paragraphs 93-101) **(ASD03)** and Background Report 3: Climate Change Adaption Figure 5 (page 17) **(ASD37)**. Whilst it is accepted that there is no direct reference to protecting carbon rich soils, this is also the case for all international and national designations within the city region. Protection for these designations is implicit throughout the Plan. However, if the Reporter is so minded, Clydeplan would suggest the following wording additions (underlined) and deletions (strikethrough) to paragraph 8.2 (page 72):

‘Green infrastructure, such as naturalised sustainable drainage systems, play areas, and ~~habitat patches,~~ and carbon rich soils, including peat, can make an important contribution to the GCVGN when green infrastructure components are connected to the wider GCVGN.’

North Ayrshire Council (PP32)

Clydeplan does not accept the modification as it considers the current wording adequately reflects the integration of the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network as a significant component of the wider Central Scotland Green Network and its importance as a National Development within National Planning Framework 3 paragraph 6.6 (page 64) **(ASD21)**. This is reinforced by the inclusion of the first bullet of Policy 12, Green Network and Green Infrastructure (page 73) which states: ‘identify, protect, promote and enhance the Green Network, including cross-boundary links with adjoining local authorities;’.

Reporter’s conclusions:

[Note: For DPEA use only.]

Reporter’s recommendations:

[Note: For DPEA use only.]