



**TRANSPORT  
SCOTLAND**  
CÒMHDHAIL ALBA

# **Environmental Impact Assessment Record of Determination**

## **A1 Bankton to Macmerry SB**

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## Project Details

### Description

BEAR Scotland has been commissioned by Transport Scotland to carry out resurfacing works on the A1 (SB) carriageway. The works will consist of carriageway resurfacing and reinstatement of road markings for a length of 1.97 km (approximately 2.1 ha).

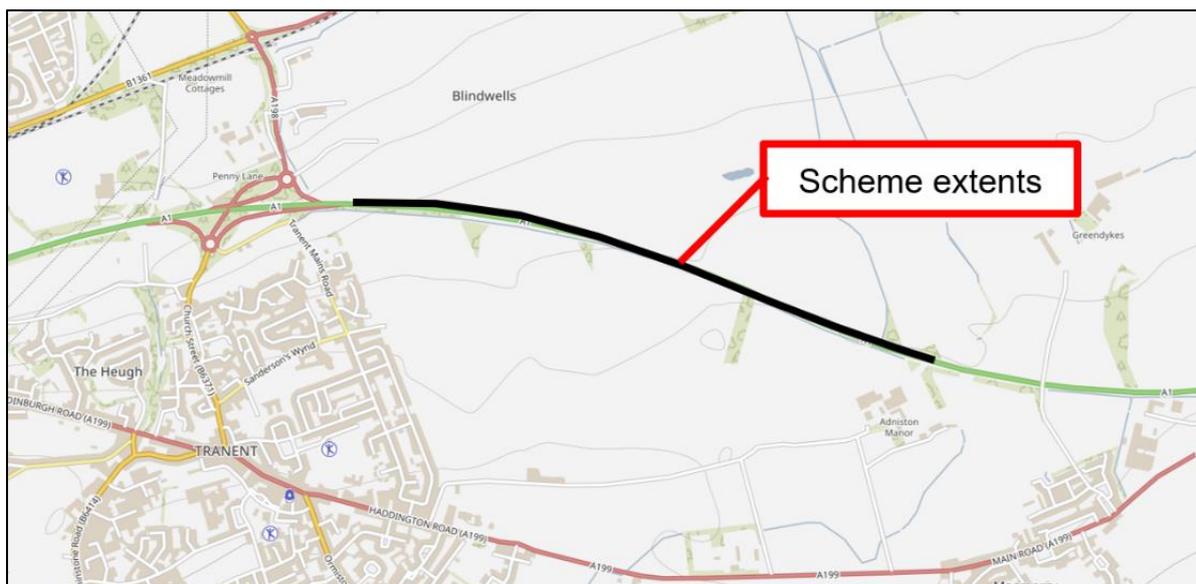
Construction activities for resurfacing include:

- set up traffic management (TM) and mark out site;
- milling of existing bituminous material by road planer;
- jackhammer and compressor for breaking up surfaces not accessible by planer (e.g., around gullies);
- loader/excavator used to collect and move excess material;
- sweeper to collect loose material and provide clean laying surface;
- milled out/excavated materials all taken off site;
- tack/bond coat laid;
- binder material laid and compressed by paver (where required);
- material compacted using a heavy roller;
- new bituminous surface course material laid by paver;
- material compacted using a heavy roller;
- mechanical sweeper to collect loose material;
- HGV for removal and replacement of material;
- road markings and studs applied where necessary (in accordance with [Chapter 5](#));
- remove TM and open road.

The works are currently programmed to be completed at the beginning of the 2024/2025 financial year (April - July 2024), however may be delayed into later in the 2024/2025 financial year (August 2024 – March 2025). Works are expected to be completed over six nights (excluding Saturday and Sunday). Traffic management (TM) is currently anticipated to consist of a full night-time southbound lane closure, with signed diversion. Traffic will be diverted via the A198, B1377, A6137 and A199, re-joining the A1 at Abbotsview Junction. There are no pedestrian or other non-motorised user (NMU) facilities with connectivity to the scheme extents.

### Location

The scheme lies northeast of Tranent, with agricultural land surrounding the majority of the scheme (Figure 1).



**Figure 1. Extent of works.** Source: Asset Management Performance System (AMPS). © Europa Technologies Ltd. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018.

## Description of local environment

### Air quality

Properties within 300m of the scheme – refer to ‘Population and Human Health’.

A search of the [Air Quality in Scotland](#) online mapping tool records that the scheme extents are not located within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), and air quality monitoring sites in the wider area record bandings in the ‘green zone’ (Low Index 1-3).

The scheme lies within the boundary of East Lothian Council, which has one Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) within its administrative boundary. The nearest AQMA, ‘High Street, Musselburgh,’ lies approximately 6.5km north west of the scheme and has been declared for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>).

There are four sites registered on the Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory ([SPRI](#)) for pollutant releases to air within 10km of the scheme. Details are as follows:

- Cockenzie PS, Prestonpans, East Lothian, - Energy sector (2km northwest)
- Charles River Laboratories Edinburgh Ltd, - Waste and waste-water management (2.5km southwest)
- Millerhill Anaerobic Digestion Facility, Dalk, - Waste and waste-water management (9km west)
- Millerhill Recycling & Energy Recovery Centre, - Waste and waste-water management (9.2km west)

Baseline air quality in the study area is mainly influenced by vehicles travelling along the trunk road. Secondary sources are derived from vehicles travelling along the local road network and day-to-day agricultural land management activities.

## Cultural heritage

The [PastMap](#) and [Historic Environment Scotland](#) (HES) online mapping tools show that the scheme lies within 'Battle of Prestonpans' Inventory Battlefield (IB) (ID: BTL16).

In addition to this, one listed building lies within 300m of the scheme. Tranent Mains Farmhouse (LB19083), a Category C, listed building is found 160m south west of the scheme. There is no connectivity between the scheme and the listed building as it lies outwith the trunk road boundary.

There are 14 undesignated cultural heritage assets (UCHAs) found within 300m of the scheme extents. There is no connectivity between the scheme and the UCHAs i.e., the nearest, East Adinston Historic Environment Record (ID: MEL582), lies outwith the trunk road boundary approximately 80m south east of the scheme extents.

Construction of the A1 corridor is likely to have removed any archaeological remains that may have been present within the trunk road boundary. The potential for the presence of unknown archaeological remains in the study area has therefore been assessed to be low.

## Landscape and visual effects

The scheme is not situated within a [National Park](#) (NP) or [National Scenic Area](#) (NSA).

The Landscape Character Types (LCT) within the study area are 'Settle Coastal Farmland' (no. 279) which covers a small section within the western extent of the scheme and 'Lowland Farmed Plain - Lothians' (no. 275) which encompasses the remainder of the study area ([Scottish Landscape Character Types](#)). The key characteristics of 'Settle Coastal Farmland' (no. 279) are:

- Coastline of low rocky platforms, small rocky headlands and sandy beaches.
- Almost continuously settled coastal strip giving the area an overall dominant urban/industrial character.
- Extensive fields of prime agricultural land which is being reduced in area due to settlement expansion.
- Prominent main road and rail transport corridors, as well as a dense network of minor roads.

- Estate and designed landscapes and boundary features.
- Visual clutter of vertical structures.
- Views across the coastal plain are often curtailed by development, especially in the westernmost part of this Landscape Character Type.

The key characteristics of 'Lowland Farmed Plain - Lothians' (no. 275) are:

- Smoothly rolling, large-scale arable plain landforms with occasional igneous intrusions forming local landmarks.
- Small streams forming shallow breaks in the smooth slopes, feeding into the broad meandering valley of the River Tyne.
- High quality agricultural land, divided into a chequerboard pattern of fields with historic field pattern being retained in some areas. Field boundaries defined by clipped hedges, scattered hedgerow trees, post and wire fences and occasional stone walls.
- Occasional small-scale woodlands and shelterbelts relate to watercourses and reinforce field pattern.
- Policy woodlands, estate houses and, buildings and boundary walls of several estates throughout the area create a historic character.
- Numerous conservation villages spread throughout the Landscape Character Type with a scattering of farmsteads and small housing clusters, as well as larger settlement of Haddington.
- Open views across the landscape to Edinburgh, the coast to the north, and hills to the south.

[Land use](#) within 300m of the scheme is categorised into the following:

- Motorway and Major Roads,
- Restored Agricultural Land,
- Rectilinear fields and farms,
- Rough Grazing, and
- Urban area.

The [national scale land capability for agriculture](#) classifies land surrounding the scheme as being:

- 'Class 2' – land capable of producing a wide range of crops.
- 'Class 3.1' – land capable of producing consistently high yields of a narrow range of crops and/or moderate yields of a wider range. Short grass leys are common.

The scheme lies northeast of Tranent with agricultural land bordering the carriageway within the scheme extents. Woodland in the study area includes approximately 1.5ha of native shrub woodland (registered on the [Native Woodland Survey of Scotland](#)) which lies 150m west of the scheme extents. Additionally

approximately 1ha of woodland borders the NB carriageway and 0.5ha of which lies east of the scheme extents. There are no areas registered on the [Ancient Woodland Inventory Scotland](#) with connectivity to the scheme extents. There are no trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) with connectivity to the scheme extents.

The existing trunk road is a prominent linear landscape feature. The trunk road corridor, for example, has a distinct character shaped by fast-flowing traffic, road markings, safety barriers, signage, landscaping, lighting etc. The scale of the trunk road detracts from the quality and character of the wider landscape.

## Biodiversity

The [NatureScot Sitelink](#) online mapping tool identifies that the scheme is not situated within 2km of, and does not share connectivity with, a 'sensitive area' designated for biodiversity features e.g., SAC, SPA, Ramsar, SSSI, etc.

There are no Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS), or Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) designated for biodiversity features with connectivity to the scheme.

A search of the NBN online mapping tool records giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), an invasive non-native species (INNS), within 2km of the scheme extents (within last 10-years). Giant hogweed is recorded approximately 0.9km southwest of the scheme (2019).

A search of the Asset Management Performance System (AMPS) online mapping tool records common ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*), an injurious weed (as listed under the Weeds Act 1959) within the scheme extents (2015). There are no records of INNS or invasive native perennials, (as listed in the Trunk Road Inventory Manual) within the grassed verge adjacent to the scheme extents (within last 10-years).

Habitat immediately bordering the trunk road tends to be of low intrinsic value because the existing road verge is subject to cyclic maintenance e.g., grass cutting, weed control, tree, and shrub cut-back etc. The roadside verges therefore comprise a homogenous species-poor semi-improved grassland alongside broadleaved tree and shrub shelterbelt. Roadside vegetation generally offers low ecological habitat value due to its limited scale, fragmented nature and high potential for disturbance owing to cyclic trunk road landscape maintenance, and the proximity of the trunk road (with its fast-flowing traffic). The presence of the trunk road also restricts continuity of, and connectivity between, habitats either side of the trunk road boundary.

Outwith the trunk road boundary, agricultural land surrounding the scheme forms a pattern of open and exposed fields containing predominantly arable land. The result of this intensive agricultural land management is to restrict the occurrence of semi-natural and natural vegetation types. Most field boundaries are post-and-wire fencing, with vegetative features further delineating field boundaries e.g., shrub hedgerow, rough grassland, ruderal herb stands, scrub and tree shelterbelt. Linear features at field boundaries have wildlife value, both as corridors in an intensively managed landscape, and as habitats for birds and small animals.

## Geology and soils

The A1 within the scheme extents is not located within a [Geological Conservation Review Site](#) (GCRS), and there are no [Local Geodiversity Sites](#) (LGS) with connectivity to the scheme extents.

The [National Soil Map of Scotland](#) online mapping tool records that the generalised soil type and major soil group recorded beneath the scheme extents is Brown soils.

The [British Geological Survey](#) online mapping tool records that the superficial geology in the scheme extents is comprised of:

- Till, Devensian (Diamicton).

The bedrock geology in the scheme extents is recorded as:

- Limestone Coal Formation (sedimentary rock cycles, Clackmannan group type).
- Upper Limestone Formation (sandstone with subordinate argillaceous rocks and limestone).
- Index Limestone (Scotland) (limestone).

There is no evidence of historical industrial processes or the storage of hazardous materials that could have given rise to significant land contamination within the scheme extents.

Factor has no constraints (as identified in Environmental Baseline) that are likely to be impacted by the proposed works and has therefore been scoped out of further environmental assessment.

## Material assets and waste

The proposed works are required to resurface the worn carriageway and reinstate road markings. Materials used will consist of:

- Asphaltic material
- Road-marking paint

- Bituminous emulsion bond coat
- Milled-in/surface-mounted road studs.

As the value of the scheme exceeds £350,000 a Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is required.

The 1.97km scheme involves removal of the surface course and localised areas of binder course. Bituminous material (European Waste Catalogue Code: 17 03 02) will be removed from site, none of which is classified as hazardous material containing coal tar.

## Noise and vibration

Receptors – refer to ‘Population and Human Health.’

Works are not located within a [Candidate Noise Management Area](#) (CNMA) or [Candidate Quiet Areas](#) (CQA).

The night-time modelled noise level (L<sub>night</sub>) within the scheme extents ranges between 60 and 65 decibels, with noise levels dropping to <50 decibels at the nearest NSR (farmstead) ([Scotland’s Noise Scotland’s Environment](#)).

Baseline noise and vibration in the study area is mainly influenced by vehicles travelling along the trunk road. Secondary sources are derived from vehicles travelling along the local road network and day-to-day agricultural land management activities.

## Population and human health

Several properties (including a farmstead, residential premises and a hotel (Adinston Manor House)) lie within 300m of the scheme. A large housing development is present to the north of the A1 within western extents of the scheme. It is unclear from aerial maps and streetview how much of this development is fully constructed but some areas appear to be inhabited as of March 2023. As such there is potential for residential properties to be located as close as approximately 70m north. Any properties within this new housing development would receive some limited screening from raised roadside embankments. The farmstead lies 100m south of the scheme and has no screening from the scheme extents. Adinston Manor House Hotel is located approximately 240m south of the scheme at the eastern extent and is screened from the works by intervening residential and farmstead properties. All remaining properties lie >170m from the scheme extents and are screened by a combination of raised roadside embankment, woodland shelterbelt (15m-25m wide) and/or intervening properties.

A core path (CP ID: 9356) is culverted beneath the trunk road within the scheme extents. There are no other non-motorised user (NMU) or community facilities with connectivity to the scheme.

Street lighting is not present throughout the scheme.

The A1, within the scheme extents is a dual carriageway with the national speed limit applying. The Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow is moderate (28,718 motor vehicles (ID: 80102, 2022)) ([Road Traffic Statistics](#)) and is comprised of:

- 84 two wheeled motor vehicles,
- 21,056 cars and taxis,
- 92 bus and coaches,
- 5,459 Light Goods Vehicles (LGVs), and
- 2,027 Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs).

There are no congestion issues noted on the A1 within the scheme extents during the proposed working hours.

## Road drainage and the water environment

The [Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\) River Basin Management Plan](#) online mapping tool records no classified surface waterbodies spanned by, culverted beneath or sharing direct connectivity with the scheme extents.

One unclassified surface waterbody, considered to be a minor tributary or drainage channel and herein referred to as Drain1, is culverted beneath the trunk road within the scheme extents. The culvert of Drain1 extends 3m beyond the edge of the carriageway and is separated by a grassed verge, vehicle restraint system (VRS) and wooden fencing. Drain1 is considered too small (in terms of catchment area) to be classified as a main stem waterbody by SEPA under the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD).

A search of the [SEPA's Flood Map](#) online mapping tool records that the trunk road, within the scheme extents, is at high to low risk of surface water flooding (i.e., each year the area has a 10% - 0.1% chance of flooding).

A search of the [Scotland's Environment](#) (SE) online mapping tool determined that the trunk road, within the scheme extents, lies on the 'Gorebridge' groundwater which has been classified as 'Poor'.

A search of the [SE](#) online mapping tool determined that the trunk road, within the scheme extents, does not lie within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.

## Climate

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 sets out the target and vision set by the Scottish Government for tackling and responding to climate change ([The Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#)). The Act includes a target of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 80% before 2050 (from the baseline year 1990). The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 amended the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to bring the target of reaching net-zero emissions in Scotland forward to 2045 ([Climate Change \(Emissions Reduction Targets\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#)).

The Scottish Government has since published its indicative Nationally Determined Contribution (iNDC) to set out how it will reach net-zero emissions by 2045, working to reduce emissions of all major greenhouse gases by at least 75% by 2030 ([Scotland's contribution to the Paris Agreement: indicative Nationally Determined Contribution - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)). By 2040, the Scottish Government is committed to reducing emissions by 90%, with the aim of reaching net-zero by 2045 at the latest.

Transport Scotland is committed to reducing carbon across Scotland's transport network and this commitment is being enacted through the Mission Zero for Transport ([Mission Zero for transport | Transport Scotland](#)). Transport is the largest contributor to harmful climate emissions in Scotland. In response to the climate emergency, Transport Scotland are committed to reducing their emissions by 75% by 2030 and to a legally binding target of net-zero by 2045.

## Policies and plans

This Record of Determination has been undertaken in accordance with all relevant regulations, guidance, policies and plans, notably including the Environment and Sustainability Discipline of the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges ([Design Manual for Roads and Bridges \(DMRB\)](#)) and Transport Scotland's Environmental Impact Assessment Guidance ([Guidance - Environmental Impact Assessments for road projects \(transport.gov.scot\)](#)).

## Description of main environmental impacts and proposed mitigation

### Air quality

During the construction phase, activities undertaken on site could potentially have some minor localised and short-term air quality impacts in proximity to the works. The construction phase will, for example, require a range of ancillary plant, vehicles, and non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) which will contribute to local dust and air pollutants. The main sources are likely to be dust generated by cold milling in preparation of carriageway resurfacing, as well as exhaust emissions from ancillary plant and vehicles. As a result, there is potential for dust, particulate matter, and exhaust emissions (DPMEE) to be emitted to the atmosphere.

However, considering the nature of the scheme, and with implementation of mitigation detailed below, the proposed works' impacts on local air quality levels during the construction period are assessed to be temporary negligible adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual air quality impacts are anticipated.

Proposed air quality mitigation measures:

- A water-assisted dust sweeper will sweep the carriageway after dust-generating activities, and waste will be contained and removed from site as soon as is practicable.
- Materials that have a potential to produce dust will be removed from site as soon as possible, and vehicles that remove cold-milled material from site will have sheeted covers.
- Ancillary plant, vehicles and NRMM will have been regularly maintained, paying attention to the integrity of exhaust systems.
- Ancillary plant, vehicles and NRMM will be switched off when stationary to prevent exhaust emissions (e.g., there will be no idling vehicles).
- Where practicable, if powered generators are required, the use of mains electricity or battery powered ancillary plant will be considered in place of diesel or petrol alternatives.
- Cutting, grinding, and sawing equipment (if required) will be fitted or used in conjunction with suitable dust suppression techniques e.g., local exhaust ventilation system that fits directly onto tools.

- Regular monitoring (e.g., by engineer or Clerk of Works) will take place when DPMEE generating activities are occurring. In the unlikely event that unacceptable DPMEE are emanating from the site, the operation will, where practicable, be modified and re-checked to verify that the corrective action has been effective. Actions to be considered include: (a) minimizing cutting and grinding on-site, (b) reducing the operating hours, (c) changing the method of working, etc.

## Cultural heritage

While the works are located within the boundary of 'Battle of Prestonpans' Inventory Battlefield, construction of the A1 Road corridor is likely to have removed any archaeological remains that may have been present within the trunk road boundary scheme extents. As such the potential for the presence of unknown archaeological remains in the study area has been assessed to be low. Moreover, the works will be restricted to the existing carriageway boundary and depth and do not include any alterations that would affect the historic and architectural character of the Inventory Battlefield. As such, application for consent or any other permission is not required.

Furthermore, the works do not entail any earthworks or vegetation clearance, and people, ancillary plant, vehicles, NRMM and materials are restricted to areas of made/engineered ground within the A1 boundary (as much as is reasonably practicable). As such, there is negligible risk of disturbing or damaging previously undiscovered or unrecorded items of cultural interest.

Given the nature of the scheme, and with implementation of mitigation detailed below, the proposed impacts on cultural heritage during the construction period are assessed to be negligible in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual impacts on cultural heritage are anticipated.

Cultural heritage mitigation measures:

- All site personnel will be briefed on the location of the 'Battle of Prestonpans' Inventory Battlefield which is present within the scheme extents.
- All site personnel will be briefed on the importance of archaeological finds and will be instructed to inform the site supervisor where potential finds are made. If there are any unexpected archaeological finds, all works will temporarily stop, the area will be cordoned off and BEAR Scotland's Environmental Team will be contacted for advice.

- People, ancillary plant, vehicles, NRMM and materials will be restricted to areas of made/engineered ground (as much as is reasonably practicable). Where access outwith made/engineered ground is required for the safe and effective completion of the scheme, the area will be reduced as much as is reasonably practicable, and ideally will be accessed on foot.
- If a change to the construction programme onsite is required that necessitates additional earthworks or vegetation clearance other than those currently programmed, BEAR Scotland's Environmental Team will be contacted.

## Landscape and visual effects

There will be a short-term impact on the landscape character and visual amenity of the site as a result of the presence of construction plant, vehicles, and TM.

However, people, ancillary plant, vehicles, NRMM and materials are restricted to areas of made/engineered ground on the A1, and construction works are programmed to be undertaken at night (six nights) on a rolling programme. As such, the visual impact of the works will be somewhat reduced.

Considering the nature of the scheme, and with implementation of mitigation detailed below, impacts on landscape are assessed as temporary negligible adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual impacts are anticipated e.g., when complete the visual appearance will remain largely unaffected, with a renewed road surface being the only discernible change.

Proposed landscape and visual effects mitigation measures:

- Where possible, construction vehicles will not be left in places where soil or vegetation can be damaged. If damage to road verge occurs this will be lightly cultivated or graded (upon completion of the works) to allow natural recolonization by local species and promote integration with existing landscape character.
- The site will be monitored regularly for signs of litter and other potential contaminants and litter will be removed before and after works take place.
- The site will be left clean and tidy following construction.

## Biodiversity

The scheme is not situated within 2km of, and does not share connectivity with, a 'sensitive area' designated for biodiversity features (e.g., SAC, SPA, Ramsar, SSSI, etc), and there are no LNCSSs or LNRs designated for biodiversity features within 300m or with connectivity to the scheme extents.

A temporary short-term increase in noise levels may cause disturbance to local wildlife. The works will, for example, require a range of ancillary plant, vehicles and NRMM which will emit noise and create potential disturbance. The works will also require delivery of materials and the presence of personnel to facilitate the improvements to the carriageway surface. However, the number of construction vehicles and construction operatives required onsite is low given the scale and scope of works. In addition, any species in the area are likely to be accustomed to noise and visual disturbance pertaining to vehicle movements, on the A1 and the scheme is of short duration (six nights) and will be undertaken on a rolling programme. The potential for significant species disturbance within the area of likely construction disturbance is therefore somewhat diminished.

Common ragwort has been recorded within the trunk road boundary scheme extents; however, all works are restricted to areas of made ground on the A1 carriageway surface, with only 'like-for-like' replacement of road surface being undertaken. As such, there is limited potential to spread or introduce INNS, invasive native perennials, or injurious flowering plant species. Common ragwort (and any other invasive or injurious flowering plant species) will also be controlled/treated by cultural methods and/or chemical weed control as per the SE Annual Landscape Management Plan.

Considering the nature of the scheme, and with implementation of mitigation detailed below, the proposed work impacts on biodiversity throughout the construction period are therefore assessed to be temporary minor adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual impacts are anticipated in relation to biodiversity.

Proposed biodiversity mitigation measures:

- All site workers will have received adequate training relevant to their role prior to working on the site, including specific environmental inductions and 'toolbox talks' as required.
- Site personnel will remain vigilant for the presence of any protected species throughout the works period. Should a protected species be noted during construction, works will temporarily halt until the species has sufficiently moved on. Any sightings of protected species will be reported to the BEAR Scotland Environmental Team.

- Given the presence of common ragwort along the verge within the scheme extents Toolbox Talk TTN-009 Working with Injurious Weeds & Invasive Plants will be briefed prior to works commencing. Site personnel will remain vigilant for the presence of any potentially unrecorded instances of invasive or injurious weeds in road verges throughout the works period.
- The Contractor will employ 'soft-start' techniques for all noisy activity to avoid sudden and unexpected disturbance during works. Each time the activity is started up after a period of inactivity, the noise levels will be gradually increased over a period of 30 minutes to permit animals (including birds) to move away from the disturbance.
- Where possible, artificial lighting used during night works will be sufficiently screened and aligned so as to ensure that there is no direct illumination of neighbouring habitat (e.g., locations adjacent to tree shelterbelt, woodland, surface waterbodies etc.) to ensure minimal impact on nocturnal species.
- All equipment stored onsite, where necessary, will be checked at the start of each workday to ensure mammal species are not present. Any storage containers/plant within the compound will also be secured overnight to prevent exploration by mammal species. Any areas where an animal could become trapped (e.g., storage containers) will also be covered at the end of each working day, to avoid mammals falling in and becoming trapped.
- People, ancillary plant, vehicles, NRMM and materials will be restricted to areas of made/engineered ground (as much as is reasonably practicable). If during works unforeseen access to the surrounding environment is required, works will cease in this area and BEAR Scotland's Environmental Team will be contacted to allow consideration of potential environmental effects.
- BEAR Scotland's Environmental Team will be contacted to allow consideration of potential environmental effects if:
  - unforeseen site clearance is required,
  - unplanned works must be undertaken outwith the carriageway boundary,
  - there is any deviation from the agreed plan, programme and/or method of working,
  - nesting birds are found onsite.
- BEAR Scotland's Control Room will be contacted if there is a pollution incident.

## Material assets and waste

Minimising impacts arising from construction materials are focussed upon making the most efficient use of materials onsite to reduce the need for imported primary materials and minimise the creation and disposal of waste through (i) reduction, (ii) re-use, and (iii) recycling. Potential impacts have been assessed for both the construction and operational phases of this scheme. It is anticipated that most material impacts are likely to arise during construction, though long-term residual impacts could occur post construction during the operational phase e.g., during the disposal of materials arising from routine maintenance operations.

However, the detailed design will reduce the requirements for primary materials e.g., the carriageway surfacing and subbase will be carefully considered to minimise the requirements for importing primary material. Materials will also be derived from recycled, secondary, or re-used origin as far as practicable within the design specifications to reduce natural resource depletion. Specifying TS2010 surface course allows a wider array of aggregate sources to be considered when compared to typical stone mastic asphalt (SMA). As a result, the use of TS2010 should reduce the usage of imported aggregates and increase the use of a wider range of sustainable aggregate sources. The design life for the TS2010 surfacing is also estimated to be 20 years. The enhanced durability of TS2010 therefore reduces reoccurring routine maintenance and associated levels of traffic disruption to this section of road over the period.

A SWMP template will be partially completed by the Design Engineer and then the Design Engineer will supply the Contractor with the SWMP to complete the contract delivery section. The SWMP will provide details of the following:

- The quantity and type of waste that will be produced,
- How waste will be minimised, reused, recycled, recovered, or otherwise diverted from landfill,
- How materials that cannot be reused, recycled, or recovered will be removed from site and consigned, transported and disposed of in full accordance with all relevant legislation.

Considering the nature of the scheme, and with implementation of the mitigation detailed below, the proposed works impacts on material assets and waste throughout the construction period are therefore assessed to be temporary negligible adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual impacts are anticipated on materials or waste.

Proposed material and waste mitigation measures:

- A Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) will be completed by the Designer and Contractor as required.
- Good materials management methods (e.g., 'just-in-time' delivery) will be implemented wherever possible.
- The Contractor will comply with all 'Duty of Care' requirements, ensuring that any surplus materials or waste are stored, transported, treated, used, and disposed of safely without endangering human health or harming the environment. Material transfer notes and/or waste exemption certificates (if required) will also be completed and retained.
- The Contractor is responsible for the reuse / disposal of non-hazardous road planings, and this has been registered in accordance with a Paragraph 13(a) waste exemption issued by SEPA, as described in Schedule 3 of the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 2011 (exemption number: WML/XS/2008048), the rules of which will be complied with.
- Designated areas will be identified within which all materials and personnel, including construction compounds, will be contained to limit environmental disturbance during construction works. This will include a designated area (if required) for segregation and reuse of waste materials.
- The selection of areas for materials stockpiling will avoid sensitive locations such as road drainage and Drain1. Stockpiled materials with leachate potential, for example, will be stored away from road drainage to prevent cross-contamination with other materials, wastes, or groundwater.
- Materials will be stored with the appropriate security to prevent loss, theft, or vandalism.
- All temporary road signs and traffic cones will be removed from site on completion of works.
- Wastewater from welfare facilities (if required) will be subject to effluent treatment followed by tanker removal.
- If hazardous substances are used onsite, each substance will be subject to assessment under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002. Hazardous substances will also be clearly labelled, and disposed of, in line with COSHH safety data sheets and the Special Waste Regulations 1996. Special waste will also not be mixed with general waste and/or other recyclables.

## Noise and vibration

Activities undertaken on site could potentially have some localised and short-term noise impacts in proximity to the works. The road works will, for example, require a range of ancillary plant, vehicles and NRMM for cold milling in preparation for carriageway resurfacing. Noise will also be generated by using breakers (jackhammers), chipping hammers, use of rollers, etc. As a result, there is potential for noise and vibration effects.

However, the works are not located within a CNMA or CQA, and the proximity of road space suggests that residents within the local area will have a degree of tolerance to noise and disturbance. Works will also be completed over six nights on a rolling programme, with the aim being to complete the noisiest works by 23:00. Works with the potential to induce worst-case scenario noise and vibration will also be intermittent, temporary, transient and short-lived. The potential for disturbance will therefore be somewhat diminished.

Considering the likely sources of noise and vibration, the distance from the point of generation to NSRs, the nature, duration, size and scale of the scheme, and with implementation of the mitigation detailed below, it is unlikely that noise and vibration associated with the works will lead to significant impacts, disruption and/or complaints. The proposed scheme is therefore anticipated to result in temporary minor adverse noise impacts.

The road surface is in a poor condition, with a series of defects. Replacing the life-expired surface course with TS2010 road surfacing affords the benefits of a reduction in mid-to-high frequency traffic noise and a reduction in ground vibrations. As a result, upon completion of the work, noise associated with the movement of vehicles on the trunk road should decrease post construction.

Proposed noise mitigation measures:

- The local authority environmental health will be notified of nighttime working by BEAR Scotland's design engineer.
- Where possible, the noisiest work operations (e.g., cold milling, using breakers (jackhammers), chipping hammers, use of rollers, etc.) will be completed before 23:00.
- If unacceptable noise is emanating from the site the operation will, where possible, be modified and re-checked to verify that the corrective action has been effective. Actions to be considered include (a) minimizing cutting and grinding on-site, (b) reducing the operating hours, (c) repositioning equipment, (d) changing the method of working etc. Corrective actions will be actioned through the non-conformance reporting procedure, which ensures a root-cause analysis is carried out

on each incident. The non-conformance procedure also ensures that appropriate corrective and preventative action measures are agreed and implemented in a timely fashion with all parties, and are recorded and actioned through to closeout, and fully auditable and traceable.

- Ancillary plant, vehicles and NRMM with directional noise characteristic will (where practical) be shut down in intervening periods between site operations.
- The use of paving breakers (jackhammers), chipping hammers, etc. will be avoided (except where there is an overriding justification), and if used will be fitted with mufflers or silencers of the type recommended by the manufacturer.
- Drop heights from vehicles and NRMM will be kept to a minimum to minimise noise when unloading.
- All ancillary plant, vehicles and NRMM used onsite will have been regularly maintained, paying attention to the integrity of silencers and acoustic enclosures.
- All compressors will be 'sound-reduced' models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers which will be kept closed when in use.
- HGV, site vehicles and NRMM will be switched to the minimum setting required by HSE and, where possible, will utilise 'broadband non-tonal' or 'directional sound reversing' alarms. Speed limits will also be reduced through the works.

## Population and human health

During construction, activities undertaken on site have the potential to have temporary adverse impacts on local residents, vehicle travellers, and NMUs.

While a core path is culverted beneath the trunk road within the scheme extents, works will be restricted to the A1 trunk road and will not impact upon the core path below. There are no other NMu facilities, or community assets, with connectivity to the scheme extents. Moreover, TM will only be in place for six nights (when traffic flows will be at a minimum), and no congestion issues are noted during the proposed construction hours.

Considering the nature, duration, size and scale of the scheme, and with implementation of the mitigation described below, impacts on population and human health are assessed as temporary minor adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual impacts are anticipated in relation to population and human health:

Proposed population and human health mitigation measures:

- Construction lighting will take into account the need to avoid illuminating surrounding properties to avoid a nuisance at night, and non-essential lighting will be switched off at night.
- Where appropriate, a communication strategy (e.g., social media, consultation with local authority and other stakeholders, letter drop (for night-time works), etc.) will be initiated to keep local residents and/or businesses informed of the proposed working schedule, particularly the times and durations of noisy construction activities. The communication strategy will also provide a 24-hour contact number for the BEAR Scotland Control Room.
- Given the proximity of residential properties Toolbox Talk TTN-042 Being a Good Neighbour will be briefed to staff prior to the commencement of works.
- Advanced signage will be strategically placed on the trunk road to notify stakeholders of the road closure and diversion. Signage will be installed at least seven days in advance of the road closure.
- A Traffic Management Plan (TMP), which includes measures to avoid or reduce disruption to road traffic, will be produced in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual (Department of Transport 2009). The TMP will ensure that there is no severance of community assets, access routes or residential development.

## Road drainage and the water environment

During resurfacing works, there is potential for temporary adverse impacts on the water environment. Potential changes in water quality e.g., from pollution events (either by accidental spillage of sediments, particulate matter, chemicals, fuels or by mobilisation of these in surface water caused by rain) during works have the potential to have a direct or indirect effect on Drain1 and surrounding waterbodies.

However, no 'in-water' works are required, therefore there will be no change in the hydrological regime or water quality within Drain1. All land outwith the motorway boundary is also considered out-of-bounds to all construction staff during the works and there is no requirement for land take, site clearance or resources from within a waterbody. There is also no requirement for the abstraction or transfers of water from, or discharges to a waterbody. The potential for a direct pollution incident within a waterbody is also unlikely e.g., experience gained from BEAR Scotland maintenance schemes elsewhere on the network has shown that where standard

best working practice is adopted (e.g., adherence to SEPA GPPs or PPGs, etc.), water quality is protected.

Considering the nature of the scheme, and with implementation of the mitigation detailed below, the proposed works impacts on the road drainage and water environment are assessed as temporary negligible adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the works, no residual impacts are anticipated in relation to the road drainage and water environment.

Proposed road drainage and water environment mitigation measures:

- If any works are identified that would require entering Drain1, BEAR Scotland's Environmental Team will be contacted (before works commence) to allow consideration of potential environmental effects.
- The abstraction or transfers of water from, discharges to, or the washing of tools in Drain1 is not permitted.
- The Contractor will implement measures to minimise the risk of sediment or accidental spillages entering the road drainage system e.g., prior to works commencing any roadside gullies within 10m of work activities will be bunded (e.g., utilisation of drain covers or similar) to ensure full segregation of the works from the road drainage system. The Contractor will inspect bunds periodically to ensure that they have not been removed, damaged, or interfered with and they will be cleaned of silt and debris as necessary. If it is identified that bunds are not up to standard, the works will not commence until they have been reinstated to the condition, they were originally in.
- All site personnel will be made aware of site spillage response procedures and in the event of a spill, all works associated with the spill will stop, and the incident reported to the Site Supervisor. Small spills that did not leave the site boundary and are cleaned up without material environmental harm or residual environmental impact would most likely not be required to be notified to SEPA or other authorities. However, all such incidents must be recorded and reported to BEAR Scotland's Environmental Team. In the event of a 'serious incident,' SEPA will be notified without delay. Such notification will include: (i) the time and duration of the incident, (ii) a description of the cause of the incident, (iii) any effect on the environment as a result of the incident, and (iv) any measures taken to minimise or mitigate the effect and prevent a recurrence.
- All waste, vehicles, ancillary plant, NRMM and fuels will be stored in the compound(s) or laydown area and will be secured and located, if space is available, at least 10m from drainage entry points and Drain1, in order

to comply with GPP 5 'works and maintenance in or near water'. Refuelling will only be undertaken at designated refuelling areas (e.g., on hardstanding, with spill kits available, and >10m from drainage entry points and Drain1, where practicable). Spill kits will also be available within all site vehicles and spill kits will be replenished onsite when required. Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant. Generators, and other ancillary plant and NRMM, where there is a risk of leakage of oil or fuel, will have internal bunding or must have a secondary containment system placed beneath them that meets 110% capacity requirements. Containment systems will also be emptied regularly. All waste, vehicles, ancillary plant, NRMM and fuels will also be stored in a manner that ensures they are protected from damage by collision or extremes of weather.

- Regular visual pollution inspections of the designated laydown area and work site (particularly near road drainage entry points and Drain1) will be conducted (e.g., site walkover by engineer or Site Supervisor), especially during periods of heavy rain.
- All vehicles and NRMM onsite will have been regularly maintained, paying attention to the integrity of oil tanks, coolant systems, gaskets etc. A checklist will be present to make sure that the checks have been carried out.

## Climate

BEAR Scotland, working on behalf of Transport Scotland, undertake carbon monitoring of major projects and operational activities. Emissions from activities are recorded using Transport Scotland's Carbon Management System. BEAR Scotland also undertakes resource efficiency activities to manage and reduce emissions contributing to climate change. The carriageway resurfacing works will also extend the maintenance intervals required for future works. In doing so, the service life of the trunk road is also extended.

During works there is potential for impacts as a result of the emission of greenhouse gases through the use of equipment, vehicles, and NRMM, material use and production, and transportation of material/waste. However, considering the nature, duration, size and scale of the scheme, and the mitigation detailed below, the risk of significant impacts to climate are considered to be negligible adverse in magnitude.

Upon completion of the proposed scheme no residual impacts are anticipated on the climate.

Proposed climate mitigation measures:

- Local contractors and suppliers will be used as far as practicable to reduce fuel use and greenhouse gas emitted as part of the works.
- BEAR Scotland will adhere to its Carbon Management Policy.
- Where possible, waste will be disposed of at local waste management facilities.

## Vulnerability of the project to Major Accidents and Disasters

There will be no change to the likelihood of flooding on the A1 within the scheme extents upon completion of the works.

Works are restricted to areas of made ground on the A1 carriageway surface, with access to the scheme gained via the A1. TM will employ road closure with signed diversion. There are no NMU facilities, or other community assets, with connectivity to the scheme extents that have the potential to be impacted. As such, the proposed works impacts on road traffic accidents is assessed to be of negligible magnitude.

A Site Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) will be produced by BEAR Scotland which sets out a framework to reduce the risk of adverse impacts from construction activities on sensitive environmental receptors. The Contractor will comply with all conditions of the SEMP during works and may be subject to audit throughout the contract.

Considering the above, the vulnerability of the project to risks of major accidents and disasters is considered to be low.

## Assessment of cumulative effects

The proposed works are not anticipated to result in significant environmental effects. Due to the nature of the proposed works, no cumulative effects are anticipated with any other developments in the vicinity. Any future BEAR Scotland schemes will be programmed to take into account already-programmed works and as such, any cumulative effect will be limited.

In addition, a search using [East Lothian Council 'Simple Search'](#) identified that there are two planning applications within 300m of the scheme. The applications pertain to Condition Compliance for Condition 21 with regards to stabilisation of shallow mine workings, and 'Planning Permission Principle' with regards to extension of an existing planning application to include a larger area of land for development. However, considering the nature and scale of the planning application, and the minor

maintenance works being undertaken by BEAR Scotland, no in-combination effects are anticipated.

## Assessments of the environmental effects

As detailed in the Description of Main Environmental Impacts and Proposed Mitigation section, there are no significant effects anticipated on any environmental receptors as a result of the proposed works.

## Statement of case in support of a Determination that a statutory EIA is not required

This is a relevant project in terms of section 55A(16) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 as it is a project for the improvement of a road and the works (together with any area occupied by apparatus, equipment, machinery, materials, plant, spoil heaps, or other such facilities or stores required during the period of construction) exceed 1 ha.

The project has been subject to screening using the Annex III criteria to determine whether a formal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (as amended by The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017). Screening using Annex III criteria, reference to consultations undertaken, and review of available information has not identified the need for a statutory EIA.

The project will not have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as:

Characteristics of the scheme:

- Works are restricted to like-for-like replacement of worn road surface, with all works restricted to made ground on the A1 carriageway surface.
- Works are not expected to result in significant disturbance to protected species that may be present in the wider area.
- No works are required within Drain1, which is culverted beneath the A1 within the scheme extents, therefore there will be no change in the hydrological regime or water quality within Drain1.
- No in-combination effects have been identified.
- The risk of major accidents or disasters is considered to be low.

- By removing the carriageway defects this will provide this part of the A1 carriageway with another life cycle, and significantly improve the ride quality, which will result in safer conditions for road users.
- Any potential impacts of the works are expected to be temporary, short-term, not significant, and limited to the construction phase. No impacts on the environment are expected during the operational phase as a result of the works.

Location of the scheme:

- The scheme is not situated within 2km of, and does not share connectivity with, a 'sensitive area' designated for biodiversity features e.g., SAC, SPA, Ramsar, SSSI etc.
- The scheme will not have any impact on the inventory battlefield or listed buildings noted within 300m of the scheme.
- The scheme is not located within any areas designated for landscape interests.
- Land use will not change as a result of the works.
- The works do not require any private land acquisition.
- The scheme does not lie within any sites designated for geology or soils.
- The scheme is not located within a densely populated area.

Characteristics of potential impacts of the scheme:

- The waste hierarchy will be followed to reduce waste to landfill and increase recycling.
- Works are programmed to only take six nights to complete on a rolling programme, with the aim being to complete the noisiest works by 23:00.
- With good practice pollution prevention measures implemented onsite, there is a negligible risk of a pollution event e.g., compliance with the SEMP.

## Annex A

“sensitive area” means any of the following:

- land notified under sections 3(1) or 5(1) (sites of special scientific interest) of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- land in respect of which an order has been made under section 23 (nature conservation orders) of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- a European site within the meaning of regulation 10 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994
- a property appearing in the World Heritage List kept under article 11(2) of the 1972 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- a scheduled monument within the meaning of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- a National Scenic Area as designated by a direction made by the Scottish Ministers under section 263A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
- an area designated as a National Park by a designation order made by the Scottish Ministers under section 6(1) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000.



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