

**Evidence Sources Glossary**

# Version 3

**March 2025**

## Introduction

This document is intended to be read in conjunction with the associated Evidence sources by NPF4 Policies table. The aim of this document is to provide explanatory detail with regards SEPA, and key external, data sources referred to in the evidence sources table.

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| **Flood Risk** *Please note that we strongly recommend that the sources of evidence marked with an asterisk be brought together through a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, to inform the Evidence Report*. The updated SFRA Guidance is available from our website [sfraguidance-for-planning-authorities.pdf (sepa.org.uk)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/3psdfwce/sfra-guidance-for-planning-authorities.pdf)  |
| \* SEPA Flood Hazard maps for coastal, fluvial and pluvial flooding, including future flood maps.   | Displays the land affected by coastal, fluvial and pluvial flooding for a range of annual probabilities, including a climate change scenario |  Identify where flood risk exists in the plan area, and therefore areas where new development should be located or avoided at the Proposed Plan stage (unless it meets with Policy 22 - for such areas the SFRA will identify where more detailed analysis of flood risk will be needed).  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 3 Biodiversity Policy 4 Natural Places Policy 10 Coastal development Policy 16 Quality Homes  |  The latest data (v3.0) is publicly available on the SEPA website. In the past SEPA provided bespoke data packages of our flood maps to partner organisations including planning authorities: this changed with the release of  |

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|  |  | Identify areas where climate change is resulting in unmanageable flood exposure, and so where alternative land use is needed, in accordance with NPF4. Inform blue and green infrastructure audits and/or strategies in line with [National Planning](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2023/02/national-planning-framework-4/documents/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/govscot%3Adocument/national-planning-framework-4.pdf)  | Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management   | version 2.1, and we no longer routinely issue datasets in this way. Instead, we now notify partner organisations of new flood map releases, which can then be viewed on the [SEPA website](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/flooding/flood-maps/) or downloaded directly from the [SEPA Data](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Publication webpage.](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
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|  [Framework 4 Policy 2](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2023/02/national-planning-framework-4/documents/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/govscot%3Adocument/national-planning-framework-4.pdf)[0.](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2023/02/national-planning-framework-4/documents/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/govscot%3Adocument/national-planning-framework-4.pdf)  |
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| \*Climate Change Allowances  | Provides regional uplift values for Scotland, indicating how much peak rainfall, river flows and sea levels are expected to rise –  | Providing the most up to date information on recommended climate change allowances for coastal, fluvial and pluvial flooding at a regional level  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 3 Biodiversity Policy 4 Natural Places Policy 10 Coastal development  | [SEPA guidance on climate change allowances for land use planning](https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/594168/climate-change-guidance.pdf) The guidance contains links to source data and references where more  |

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|  | over the current understanding of flood causes – due to climate change  |    | Policy 16 Quality Homes Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  | detail can be found if required  |
| \*Natural Flood Management maps  | Areas where land use change to restore nature could reduce flood risk  | Identify areas that need to be protecting for their role in reducing flood risk, and opportunity mapping for nature based solutions which could link into bluegreen infrastructure and nature networks  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 3 Biodiversity Policy 4 Natural Places Policy 10 Coastal development | [SEPA FRM Map Viewer](https://map.sepa.org.uk/floodmap/map.htm)  |

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|  |  |   | Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  |  |
| \*Reservoir inundation maps  |   | Although the risk of reservoir inundation is generally considered to be low enough to not be considered in most planning decisions, it would be advisable for any spatial strategy, particularly for new settlements or significant new development areas, to  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 16 Quality Homes Policy 22 Flood risk and water management   | SEPA [Controlled Reservoirs Register](https://map.sepa.org.uk/reservoirsfloodmap/Map.htm) including inundation mapping.  |

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|  |  | avoid places where there may be a future risk from declining assets or increased pressure due to climate change.  |  |  |
| External evidence sources  |
| \*Information on Flood Defences and Schemes  | Identify areas which rely on flood schemes and defences for protection from flooding  | Understanding where flood defence schemes help reduce risk and can be factored into assessing areas at risk of flooding or in a flood risk area. It should be noted that defences protect existing development and may not  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 10 Coastal development  Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  | The [Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database](https://www.scottishflooddefences.gov.uk/) (need to be a registered user). Local Authorities will have more detailed information on their defences, including more up to date condition inspections/assessments. Where new development is  |

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|  |  | be suitable to support new development. Protecting land needed for future planned flood protection schemes  |  | supported behind schemes, additional work may be required.  |
| \*Information on past flooding that has happened  | Evidence on actual flood events that have happened in the past  | Supplementing and verifying other sources of information on flood risk for an area    | Policy 3 Biodiversity Policy 4 Natural Places Policy 10 Coastal development Policy 16 Quality Homes Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure  | Data can be obtained from [SEPA on request.](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) Local Authority and Scottish Water have their own records that may be more detailed  |

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|  |  |  | Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  |  |
| \*Local Flood Risk Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans  | Identifies ongoing and future actions that are needed to manage flood risk, and which communities those actions are planned for  | To understand proposed actions to manage flood risk within the plan area that may influence the location of future developments and areas that may need protecting for their role in flood management    | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 10 Coastal development Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  | [Flood Risk Management](https://www2.sepa.org.uk/frmplans/) [Plans available on the SEPA website.](https://www2.sepa.org.uk/frmplans/) Local Flood Risk Management Plans available on local authorities’ websites  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| \*Local Authority Flood Studies  | Studies giving more detailed information for high-risk areas – many were carried out for potentially vulnerable areas during cycle 1 of flood risk management planning, though some pre-date that.  | They may contain flood extents and information on any existing defences, more detailed that SEPA Flood Maps in most cases  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 10 Coastal development Policy 18 Infrastructure First Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  | Local Authorities own the studies  |
| \*Dynamic Coast  | Mapped data and more detailed reports on erosion and coastal change, highlighting places  | Understanding areas of coastal change due to erosion and associated increased risk of flooding and what this may mean for  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 4 Natural Places  | [Dynamic Coast website](https://www.dynamiccoast.com/)  |

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|  | where erosion alone will be a significant future challenge, and where it may increase the risk of flooding  | locating future development and areas where consideration may need to be given to alternative sustainable land uses   | Policy 10 Coastal development Policy 22 Flood risk and water management   |  |
| \*Section 16 Assessment of risk from the sewer network maps  | Areas at risk of sewer flooding due to drainage capacity issues  | Determining local drainage capacity and what this mightmean for future development including opportunities for blue and green infrastructure to keep water on the surface and remove water from existing combined sewers  | Policy 18 Infrastructure First  Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management   | Scottish Water provided to local authorities These maps largely mirror the SEPA pluvial flood hazard maps (particularly for bigger return periods), so this mapped data should only be used by local authorities for an  |

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|  |  |    |  | internal sense check to identify areas of misalignment, which could be worthy of further investigation. **This data should not be published externally, due to the data sharing agreements in place, and should not feature in any published SFRA dataset**.  |
| \*Surface Water Management Plans  | Information on opportunities and actions to reduce surface water flood  | Opportunities to support the actions to reduce surface water flood risk through new | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation  Policy 18 Infrastructure First  | Local authorities  |

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|  | risk and known drainage capacity issues.  | development and blue and green infrastructure Implications of new development on draining capacity issues    | Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure  Policy 22 Flood risk and water management  |  |
| \*Adaptation Plans and Coastal Adaptation (Shoreline Management)Plans  | Plans setting out how places will adapt to  climate challenges will be increasingly developed. They may include information on land required for  |  Actions related to land use change that can be delivered through blue and green infrastructure, a shift  to alternative, more sustainable land uses and  | Policy 2 Climate mitigation and adaptation Policy 4 Natural Places Policy 10 Coastal development Policy 18 Infrastructure First  | Local Authorities  |

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|  | future action, or land use change.  | the design and location of new development    | Policy 20 Blue and green infrastructure Policy 22 Flood risk and water management   |  |
| Water Environment  |  |  |
| Main river and coastal catchments  |   | Identifying strategic scale catchments  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| River and loch water body nested catchments  | Catchments for all freshwater surface water bodies  | Identifying all the surface water catchments which relate to a location  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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| Bathing Water Catchment Areas  | Catchments which drain to bathing waters  | Identifying areas where surface water catchment drains to sensitive receptor – useful to inform BGI opportunity mapping  | Policies 10, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| Bathing water areas  | Designated bathing water areas  | Identifies location of sensitive receiving water environment – useful to inform BGI opportunity mapping  | Policies 10, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| Scottish Wetland inventory  | Identifies known wetlands - is not comprehensive  | Identifying wetlands of use for BGI mapping and NatureNetwork mapping  | Policies 2, 3, 4, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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| Coastal classification  | Mapped data that identifies the current classification of waterbodies  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  | Policies 3, 4, 10, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| Groundwater classification  | Mapped data that identifies the current classification of waterbodies  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| Estuaries classification  | Mapped data that identifies the current  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to  | Policies 3, 4, 10, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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|  | classification of waterbodies  | identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  |  |  |
| Loch classification  | Mapped data that identifies the current classification of waterbodies  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| River classification  | Mapped data that identifies the current classification of waterbodies  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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| Water Classification Hub  | Provides detail on the classification of different waterbodies – usually updated annually can be filtered by LA – for bathing waters please see the relevant entry below  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  | Policies 3, 4, 10, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| RBMP3  | Provides details on pressures and actions on individual waterbodies can be filtered by LA  | Could identify pressures/ measures which may be able to be addressed by proposed development  | Policies 2, 3, 4, 10, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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| Bathing water current classification  | The current bathing water classifications are provided along with a link to a data explorer tool on se web  | Provides information on the water environment baseline, and could be used to identify opportunities to address issues, where relevant  | Policies 10, 18, 20, 22   | [Bathing Waters : Summary of last season (sepa.org.uk)](https://www2.sepa.org.uk/bathingwaters/Classifications.aspx) |
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| Obstacles to fish migration  | Identifies natural and artificial obstacles to migratory fish  | Useful for BGI and Nature Network Opportunity Mapping  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |
| SEPA river flow, water level and rain gauge data  | All current and archived river flow, river level, loch level, tide level and rainfall datasets. Various resolutions from  | Can be used to show changes in rainfall and river flows over time  | Policy 2  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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|  | 15min time steps to annual figures   |  |  |  |
| Water Scarcity Data  | Includes regular reports on water scarcity across the country in summer months  | Could be used to identify areas which have experienced water scarcity, and could inform nature network or blue green opportunity mapping  | Policies 2, 3, 4, 11, 18, 20, 22  | [Water scarcity | Scottish](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/water-scarcity/) [Environment Protection](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/water-scarcity/) [Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/water-scarcity/)  |
| Geomorphic Risk Layer  | Identify sections along the river network where channel adjustment was likely to be significant and an  | Identifies areas at risk of channel adjustment which is relevant to existing and proposed development. The layer also therefore identifies areas where  | Policies 2, 3, 4, 18, 20, 22   | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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|  | approximate buffer. Relevant supporting text and caveats are included in the metadata of the shapefiles  | undeveloped riparian buffers would be beneficial.  |  |  |
| Riparian Vegetation Planting Opportunities (25m raster)  | Identification at a catchment scale, of areas where riverbanks could be protected from erosion by improved riparian vegetation ideally including riparian woodland. Relevant supporting  | This layer could be used as a source of evidence at a strategic scale to identify where riparian vegetation, and particularly woodland could be beneficial to the water environment within a catchment. It is noted that site specific assessments would be required to inform  | Policies 2, 3, 4, 6, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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|  | text and caveats are included in the metadata of the shapefiles  | individual projects, including with regards flood risk.  |  |  |
| WEF potential, existing and completed project locations  | Identifies by a point locations of potential, current and completed physical condition and fish barrier easement projects. Relevant supporting text and caveats are included in the metadata of the shapefiles  | This layer highlights water environment improvements which is relevant for nature network and BGI mapping, and in due course may be relevant for individual allocations  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20, 22  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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| *Future resources*   |
| Riparian vegetation condition layer  | Identifies condition of riparian vegetation on each bank of the baseline river water bodies. Condition can be poor, moderate or good depending on continuity and complexity of riparian vegetation.  | This layer could be used as a source of evidence at a strategic scale to identify where riparian vegetation, and particularly woodland, could be beneficial to the water environment within a catchment, and also where riparian vegetation is likely in good condition which could be useful for nature network and BGI mapping. It is noted that site specific  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  Due to be available by end 2023  |

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|  |  | assessments would be required to inform individual projects, including with regards flood risk.  |  |  |
| River Anthropogenic Modification Index  | Identifies level of modification (morphological pressures) every 1,000 m within the base line river network. Modifications can be none, to very significant modification, depending on the  | This layer could be used as a source of evidence at a strategic scale to identify opportunities for morphological river restoration. It is noted that site specific assessments would be required to inform individual projects, including with regards flood risk.  | Policies 3, 4, 18, 20  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  Due to be available by end 2023  |

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|  | type of pressures, and river type. There is also information related to energy and restoration options for each reach. Relevant supporting text and caveats are included in the metadata of the shapefiles.  |  |  |  |
|  External sources  |
| CREW report: A review of the risks to water resources in Scotland in  | A review of studies that have assessed historical and future  | Providing evidence on potential water resource issues – relevant for  | Policy 2  | [A review of the risks to water](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/review-risks-water-resources-scotland-response-climate-change)  |
| [resources in Scotland in](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/review-risks-water-resources-scotland-response-climate-change)  |
| [response to climate change |](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/review-risks-water-resources-scotland-response-climate-change)  |
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| response to climate change  | river flow and water availability changes in Scotland, as well as evidence on how climatic, hydrological, and other catchmentbased processes may influence water resource availability in the future  | considering impacts of climate change   |  | [CREW | Scotland's Centre of](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/review-risks-water-resources-scotland-response-climate-change)  |
| [Expertise for Waters](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/review-risks-water-resources-scotland-response-climate-change)  |
|    |
| CREW report: Assessing climate change impacts on the water quality of Scottish standing waters  |  The aim of the project was to compile and assess the key evidence available to improve our understanding of  | Provides evidence regarding climate change and water quality in standing waters – relevant for consideration of climate change impacts  | Policy 2  | [Assessing climate change](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/assessing-climate-change-impacts-water-quality-scottish-standing-waters)  |
| [impacts on the water quality of](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/assessing-climate-change-impacts-water-quality-scottish-standing-waters)  |
| [Scottish standing waters |](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/assessing-climate-change-impacts-water-quality-scottish-standing-waters)  |
| [CREW | Scotland's Centre of](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/assessing-climate-change-impacts-water-quality-scottish-standing-waters)  |
| [Expertise for Waters](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/assessing-climate-change-impacts-water-quality-scottish-standing-waters)  |
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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  | climate change impacts on the water quality of Scottish standing waters at national, regional and local scales. The project focused on the interactions between climate change, the drivers of eutrophication problems and their impacts.  |   |  |    |
| CREW report: Moderating extremes in water availability: a  | The aim of this project was to review the role of functioning |  Provides information with regards wetlands with the best potential to moderate  | Policies 2, 3, 20  | [Moderating extremes in water availability:](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/moderating-extremes-water-availability-review-role-functioning-wetlands) |
| [a review of the role of functioning](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/moderating-extremes-water-availability-review-role-functioning-wetlands)  |
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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| review of the role of functioning wetlands  | wetlands in moderating extremes in water availability ina Scottish context. A comprehensive assessment of the current and future buffering capacity to high and low water flows of the eighteen wetland types that occur in Scotland was undertaken.  | extremes in water availability  and advises these should be prioritised for restoration especially in catchments that are at high risk of drought and flooding. The findings could be relevant in consideration of climate change mitigation and to inform Nature Network/ Blue Green Infrastructure mapping and natural flood management  |  | [wetlands | CREW | Scotland's Centre of](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/moderating-extremes-water-availability-review-role-functioning-wetlands)  |
| [Expertise for Waters](https://www.crew.ac.uk/publication/moderating-extremes-water-availability-review-role-functioning-wetlands)   |
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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| Coal Authority interactive map       | The map shows areas of historic underground and surface mine workings. Mine entries, mine water discharges, mine water treatment schemes, mine watermonitoring points and mine heat temperature data are all shown on this mapping.  | The map can be used to determine opportunities for: * providing treatment of existing mine water discharges as part of developments.
* using mine water heat as a low-carbon geothermal resource in developments.

   | Policy 19  | The Coal Authority map is found here, on the Mine Water Heat dropdown tab, top right: [Interactive Map Viewer | Coal](https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/coalauthority/home.html)  |
| [Authority (bgs.ac.uk)](https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/coalauthority/home.html)  |
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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| Minewater geothermal resource atlas  | The map shows the areas across Scotland that offer the best potential for mine water heat.  | The map can be used to determine opportunities for using mine water heat as a low-carbon geothermal resource in developments.  | Policy 19  | [Mine Water Geothermal](https://data.spatialhub.scot/dataset/mine_water_geothermal_resource_atlas-is)  |
| [Resource Atlas - Scotland -](https://data.spatialhub.scot/dataset/mine_water_geothermal_resource_atlas-is)  |
| [Dataset - Spatial Hub Scotland](https://data.spatialhub.scot/dataset/mine_water_geothermal_resource_atlas-is) |
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| Shellfish waters  | Interactive map which shows Shellfish Water Protected Areas (SWPA) and classified shellfish harvesting areas in separate layers  | Identifying the location of protected and harvesting shellfish areas which could be used to inform BGI mapping and allocations on land discharging into these areas  | Policies 10, 20, 22, 32  | [Scotland's Aquaculture | Map](http://aquaculture.scotland.gov.uk/map/map.aspx)  |
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| Authorisation of marine fish farms in Scottish  | Categorisation of the environmental  | Estimates nutrient enhancement and benthic  | Policy 32  | [https://www.gov.scot/publicatio](https://www.gov.scot/publications/authorisation-of-marine-fish-farms-in-scottish-waters-locational-guidelines/) |
| [ns/authorisation-of-marine-fish-](https://www.gov.scot/publications/authorisation-of-marine-fish-farms-in-scottish-waters-locational-guidelines/) |
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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| waters: locational guidelines  | sensitivity of sea lochs, based on Marine Scotland science predictive models  | impact on sea lochs supporting aquaculture – could be used to inform any spatial strategy for fish farms  |  | [farms-in-scottish-waters-](https://www.gov.scot/publications/authorisation-of-marine-fish-farms-in-scottish-waters-locational-guidelines/) |
| [locational-guidelines/](https://www.gov.scot/publications/authorisation-of-marine-fish-farms-in-scottish-waters-locational-guidelines/)  |
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| Soils  |
| Special Sites in Scotland |  Identifies, in a register, the location of special sites in Scotland. Special sites are a sub-group of Part IIA contaminated land sites which meet one of the descriptions in  | Identifies in a register the location of special sites in Scotland  | Policies 9, 23  | [Special sites in Scotland |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/land/contaminated-land/special-sites-in-scotland/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/land/contaminated-land/special-sites-in-scotland/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/land/contaminated-land/special-sites-in-scotland/)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  | The Contaminated Land (Scotland) Regulations 2000 (as amended)  |  |  |  |
| External sources  |
| Carbon Rich Soils  | The map shows the distribution of carbon and peatland classes across the whole of Scotland. It gives a value to indicate the likely presence of carbon-rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland  | The classes 1, 2, 3 and 5 indicate carbon rich soils  | Policies 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11  | [Carbon and peatland 2016](https://soils.environment.gov.scot/maps/thematic-maps/carbon-and-peatland-2016-map/)  |
| [map | Scotland's soils](https://soils.environment.gov.scot/maps/thematic-maps/carbon-and-peatland-2016-map/)  |
| [(environment.gov.scot)](https://soils.environment.gov.scot/maps/thematic-maps/carbon-and-peatland-2016-map/)  |
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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  | habitat for each individually-mapped area, at a coarse scale.  |  |  |  |
| Zero Waste  |  |  |  |
| Overarching waste data statistics  | Variety of reports on waste data from different sources  | Provides waste data baseline information that can be used, alongside other the other zero waste evidence to assess the need for new waste management infrastructure to support the circular economy.  | Policy 12  | [Waste data reporting |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/waste/waste-data/waste-data-reporting/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/waste/waste-data/waste-data-reporting/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/waste/waste-data/waste-data-reporting/)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| Waste Sites and Capacity  | Includes number and type of all licensed/ permitted waste management sites in Scotland and provides annual capacity information  | Provides locational information for waste management sites, and details of scale of operation. This can be used, alongside other the other zero waste evidence to help assess the need for new waste management infrastructure to support the circular economy  | Policies 11, 12  | [https://www.sepa.org.uk/dat](https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/waste-sites-and-capacity-tool/) |
| [a-visualisation/waste-sitesand-capacity-tool/](https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/waste-sites-and-capacity-tool/)  |
| Capacity 'need' calculations to meet ZW targets  | Regional capacity calculations  | Provides information on additional required operational waste management infrastructure and landfill capacity. This  | Policy 12  | [spp-waste-capacityinfrastructure.xlsx](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sepa.org.uk%2Fmedia%2F538969%2Fspp-waste-capacity-infrastructure.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) [(live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sepa.org.uk%2Fmedia%2F538969%2Fspp-waste-capacity-infrastructure.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  |  | can be used, alongside other the other zero waste evidence to help assess the need for new waste management infrastructure to support the circular economy.  |  |  |
| Air Quality and Climate Change  |  |  |
| SPRI data  | Annual releases of specified pollutants to air and water from SEPA-regulated industrial facilities  | Provides information to a site level of pollutants released which could be useful for colocation considerations  |  Policies 2, 23  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
| Licensed Sites Layer  | Identifies location of sites licensed by SEPA  | Relevant for considering potential co-location, including residual emissions which could cause loss of amenity and nuisance to users of adjacent land but could offer the potential reuse of heat  | Policies 16, 19, 20,22, 23  | [Environmental data |](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Scottish Environment](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/) [Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/)  Currently users need to categorise the legend of the layer to differentiate licence types  |
| External sources  |
| SEweb air quality homepage  | Provides AQ monitoring data, including diffusion tube and automatic monitoring sites.  | Maps showing AQMAs. Annual LAQM progress reports summarise the priorities and challenges and include actions to improve air quality.  | Policies 13, 23  | [Home page | Scottish Air](https://www.scottishairquality.scot/) [Quality](https://www.scottishairquality.scot/)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  |  | Provides AQ monitoring data which is a good source for knowing where the hotspots are. The NO2 diffusion tube map provides data on all of the NO2 monitoring carried out using diffusion tubes by local authorities.  |  |  |
| CO2 emissions tool  | A new spotfire tool which pulls together national COPERT CO2 emission factors and Transport Scotland and UK Gov stats on  | It can be used to inform regional and local transport strategies. The data covers local and trunk networks and pulls data from UK emissions. Planning authorities could use it to  | Policies 2, 13, 23  | Currently direct from SEPA using the details below – due to be published shortly on [Home | Scotland's environment web](https://www.environment.gov.scot/)   |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  | distance travelled and fleet stats that allows CO2 emissions to be drilled down to specific individual local authorities across Scotland  | look at different scenarios for reducing CO2 emissions, e.g. reducing emissions by 10%. Could look at how measures such as reducing speed limits within urban roads would impact CO2 emissions.  |  | URL: [Local Authority CO2 data tool](https://informatics.sepa.org.uk/spotfire/wp/OpenAnalysis?file=bf5576cf-4051-47b8-87ce-5b90b5747709)  |
| Password: cafsemissions Username: aqmodelem1    |
| UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory  | The interactive tool allows you to explore data from the UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory for 2020. Ambient air  | The datasets could potentially be downloaded into local authorities GIS.  They could be used as a background model in a dispersion model. AQMA’s can be viewed in the tool. The tool provides national  | Policies, 2, 13, 23  |  | [UK Emissions Interactive](https://naei.beis.gov.uk/emissionsapp/) |  |
| [Map (beis.gov.uk)](https://naei.beis.gov.uk/emissionsapp/)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  | quality data can also be explored.  | modelled 1km background maps and roadside maps of 12 key pollutants which are updated annually. Roadside annual average concentrations of NO2 and particulate matter are available for 2016 onward in spreadsheet form.  |   |  |
| Air Pollution Information System (APIS)  | Provides information on air pollution and the effects on habitats and species.  | The data can be used to identify individual contributions from point source regulated sites and at a more strategic level look at how national/regional emission  | Policy 3, 23  | [APIS app | Air Pollution](https://www.apis.ac.uk/app) [Information System](https://www.apis.ac.uk/app)  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  |  | sources contribute to exceedances in nitrogen based pollution. The data can be used to promote a wider reduction in N emissions.  |  |  |
| UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions data   | Provides data on  GHG emissions and removals 2005-2021, in reports and spreadsheet, alongwith specific land use, land use change and forestry mapping  | Data can be interrogated by local authority and sector which provides evidence with regards GHG sources and removals over time  | Policy 2  | [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions - data.gov.uk](https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/723c243d-2f1a-4d27-8b61-cdb93e5b10ff/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions)  A spotfire tool which can pull data down to individual LA areas and by sector making the spreadsheet more interactive is due to be published shortly on  |

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| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  |   |  |  | [Home | Scotland's environment web](https://www.environment.gov.scot/)    |
| *Future resources*   |
| Air Pollution AssessmentService  |  Air Pollution Assessment Service will provide data on source emissions and potential impacts on habitats.  The regional AQ model will provide an early AQ assessment | UK Aerius – is focussed on point source emissions and potential impacts on habitats. It will help assess impacts of activities emitting air pollutants on nature.  Phase 2, the regional AQ model will be relevant for sustainable transport and  | Policy 3      Policies 13, 23  | The initial phase of the tool is due to be released late 2023/ early 2024, no date is fixed for the regional aspect of the model which will look at the impact on human health as well as the ecological impact at this time. Information on project available at  |
| **Evidence Source**  | **What it shows**  | **Useful for**  | **Policies**  | **Where you can find it**  |
|  | for future developments, mainly based on transport emissions but with an element of accumulated sources.  | health and safety policies. The model will be able to measure the impact of a development on air quality and human health.  |   | [Air Pollution Assessment](https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/air-pollution-assessment-service/) [Service | JNCC - Adviser to](https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/air-pollution-assessment-service/) [Government on Nature](https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/air-pollution-assessment-service/) [Conservation](https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/air-pollution-assessment-service/)  |

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