

CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

Question 1 - The table in part 5 provides an overview of the proposals under each of the EU 2020 headings – Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive – matched against the relevant thematic objective and investment priorities. Do you think the investment priorities are the most appropriate ones for the activity suggested?

Midlothian Council supports in principle inclusion of Proposal 13 “Green Infrastructure”, identified on page 21 of the consultation document, as a strategic intervention for structural funds.

As required by Scottish Planning Policy (2010), the Council is currently preparing proposals for a Midlothian Green Network through its Local Development Plan to integrate with, and complement, the Scottish Government’s national development priority “Central Scotland Green Network”, as identified in the National Planning Framework.

This Council anticipates that, in conjunction with new development, its work will establish local and strategic opportunities to promote a multi-functional Midlothian Green Network that, in addition to the biodiversity benefits of integrated habitats, includes active travel routes connecting Midlothian settlements.

Question 2 – Section 6 sets out the linkages between Structural, Rural and Fisheries Funds as well as linkages to other EU Funding Programmes. We would welcome stakeholder comments on these linkages in order to help us develop this thinking further

No Comment

Question 3 - Do you think the new proposals will have a positive or negative impact on the protected characteristics and wider issues of inclusion and participation?

See response to Question 1

Question 4 - If you think there will be a negative impact on the protected characteristics or inclusion and participation please provide suggestions as to what could be done differently to diminish this impact.

No Comment

Question 5 - Please provide your views for improving the process for design, procurement, delivery, monitoring and evaluation to strengthen delivery of sustainable development.

No Comment

Question 6 – Do you have any further comments on the proposals outlined in this document?

No Comment