### Key Issues
A multidisciplinary Environmental Impact Assessment was undertaken, with the following key issues arising:

**Ecology** - The works are within the Firth of Forth Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar site and Site of Special Scientific Interest designated for wintering birds. Specific consideration was given to the impact on two bird roosts within the scheme boundary.

**Landscape and visual** - The main landscape and visual impacts relate to raising the height of the sea wall, with some loss of the existing open aspect to the sea, and the installation of the rock revetment resulting in some loss of the sandy inter-tidal shore and the introduction of a new component in the landscape.

**Access & community** - The promenade, existing beach access and sections of beach will be closed to pedestrians and other users.

**Material Transport** – Significant quantities of rock will need to be delivered to site by the most feasible method.

### Purpose of the project
The project is being promoted by Fife Council to improve the existing sea wall and promenade along approximately 1.8km of the coast at Kirkcaldy in Fife. The project is being developed to repair the sea wall and reduce the incidents of coastal flooding resulting from wave overtopping of the sea wall which currently affects the pedestrian promenade, the adjacent road and residential/commercial sea front properties.

### Description of the project
**Location** - Kirkcaldy is a coastal town in Fife on the tidal estuary of the Firth of Forth.

**Key components** – new precast wall units, rock revetment, new beach accesses, promenade viewing platforms, promenade resurfacing.

**Timescale** – To be built over a 14 month programme, commencing June 2013.

**Receptors** – Firth of Forth designated estuary, users of the promenade (part of the fife Coastal Path) and residential/commercial sea front properties.
Lessons learnt
This project illustrated the benefits of working with an appointed construction contractor during scheme development and during preparation of the Environmental Statement. As well allowing for effective scoping of environmental issues and impacts this helped to identify appropriate, practical and achievable mitigation measures.

Planning – This project demonstrated the importance of liaising with the planning authority during the Scoping stage and during preparation the Environmental Statement. This helped establish a common understanding of potential impacts to be considered in the ES and specifically those aspects that could be scoped out.

Access & community - The promenade, existing beach access and sections of beach will be closed to pedestrians and other users. Upon completion users of the promenade will benefit from reduced overtopping of the sea wall and from the improved condition of the promenade and improved access to the beach. The project included public consultation to explain these aspects.

Lessons learnt cont. -
Environmental Management - The ES included a Construction Method Statement and an outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), prepared in conjunction with the appointed construction contractor. The CEMP is important in setting out how the proposed measures to minimise and mitigate the construction impacts of the development are to be managed in accordance with the ES.

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