Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) - What is it?

Statutory document under the Planning and Development Act 2007.

"...comprehensive environmental assessment, suited to proposals in relation to major policy matters rather than individual development proposals"

Supporting documents

Consultation plan for draft SEA – Approved by ACTPLA at the commencement – specifies objectives, activities etc
Consultation report – Documents findings and comments on Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment
Scoping document – Identify main environmental issues and key stakeholders

Existing characteristics likely to be affected

Social and cultural – Causeway, railway, heritage, community services
Economic – existing businesses
Environmental – wetlands, contamination, trees, ecology
Infrastructure – road and rail transport, utilities

Measures to avoid or manage effects

For example:
Site contamination - containment, remediation
The Causeway - integration, consultation, housing types, staging
Wetlands - buffers and interface design, manage recreation demand
Railway - consolidate, improve accessibility

How does it fit in with planning and design framework?

Contents of strategic environmental assessment

Description
Executive summary
Overview of SEA
Description of area
Environment characteristics likely to be affected

Analysis
Process and methods used
Assessment of likely effects
Selection of alternatives

Recommendations
Measures to avoid or manage effects
Recommendations

Plus supporting documents: consultation plan and consultation report scoping document identifying key issues

Final report

Issues of relevance to ACT Government – staging, costings, procurement