

## **GLVIA 3<sup>rd</sup> edition**

### **Proposed outline chapter structure – consultation draft**

#### **Introduction**

The Landscape Institute and IEMA are joint publishers of the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA), now recognised as the established guidance on good practice in carrying out landscape and visual impact assessment of developments. The second edition was published in 2002 and is now due for revision in order to reflect current landscape thinking and practice as well as changes in the policy context and statutory framework. A GLVIA Advisory Panel has been convened to lead the project, and Professor Carys Swanwick has been appointed to draft the text.

This document sets out a proposed structure for the revised edition. The content listed under each chapter heading is intended to give an indication of the types of issues to be included in each chapter; they are not an exhaustive list of contents, and will not necessarily be the sub-headings used in each chapter. A more detailed chapter structure will be drafted after this consultation.

Please use the online questionnaire at <http://glvia1.surveyconsole.com/> to give your feedback. The closing date is Friday December 10th.

#### **PART 1**

Sets out introduction to the revised edition, summary of content, and discussion of general context in which LVIA is undertaken and its significance. Discursive in tone – aimed more at students, laypeople, those new to the subject etc. Explanatory, scene-setting content, more focus on theory and background rather than practicalities.

#### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

- Purpose
- What is LVIA
- Why LVIA is needed
- Who undertakes LVIA for whom and when
- Significant developments since 2<sup>nd</sup> ed and changes introduced in this ed

## **Chapter 2: Scope of the guidance**

- Relevance to England, Wales, Scotland and NI
- Focus on principles and fundamentals (which have longevity)
- LVIA not just an assessment tool but also a design and enhancement tool
- Structure of the guidance:
  - A focus on the core principles throughout (the 'core' dealing with effects assessment throughout with clarity about criteria)
  - Clarity about principles and process versus prescriptive components
  - Summary/checklist conclusion to each chapter

## **Chapter 3: Context**

- Scoping - landscape and visual issues for consideration in LVIA
- Relationship to EIA/SEA, seascape, townscape, cumulative assessment, ELC and national and local planning
- Links to other disciplines, eg archaeology, historic environment
- Time: e.g. 'point in time' assessment or more 'speculative' assessment considering climate change or 'sustainability' for example?
- Ecosystem services
- Brief mention of community engagement?

## **PART 2**

Sets out fundamental core principles and required processes. Tone will be less discursive and more focussed on methods, procedures and technical issues. Checklists, bullet points, text boxes, flow charts, diagrams etc will be included as appropriate, with photographs and illustrations where relevant.

## **Chapter 4: Principles and overview of process**

- Methodology and terminology
  - Effects assessment: magnitude, sensitivity, significance. (Impact/effect)
  - Defining EIA and SEA significance
  - Dealing with legal, policy, LCA context depending on geographic location
  - Tailoring approach to appropriate level of detail required (scale)
- 'Length and presentation' of the assessment: relevant and appropriate content
- Landscape (impact) Assessment
- Visual (impact) Assessment
- Cumulative (impact) Assessment
- Recording key steps and maintaining an audit trail
- Monitoring
- Visualisations, illustrations, GIS and modelling tools
- Key steps (flow chart?)
- Summary/checklist

## **Chapter 5: The development to be assessed: what do you need to know?**

- The development process from inception to removal
- Description of the development relative to LVIA
- Masterplanning and the building-in of mitigation to the development proposal
- Summary/checklist

## **Chapter 6: Landscape Impact Assessment (includes townscape and seascape)**

- Baseline
  - Scope (consultations)
  - Static (point in time) or evolving
- Significance
- Mitigation
  - Testing effectiveness and validity
- Summary/checklist

## **Chapter 7: Visual Impact Assessment**

- Baseline
  - Scope (consultations)
  - Static (point in time) or evolving
- Significance
- Mitigation
  - Testing effectiveness and validity
- Summary/checklist

## **Chapter 8: Cumulative Impact Assessment**

- Baseline
  - Scope (consultations)
  - Static (point in time) or evolving
- Significance
- Mitigation
  - Testing effectiveness and validity
- Summary/checklist

## **Chapter 9: Visual representation/illustration**

- Maps, sketches and 2D and 3D diagrams
- Computer modelling, visualisations and photomontages
- Role of GIS
- References to other guidance

## **Appendices, glossary, index, bibliography etc**