

Highland wide Local Development Plan - Main Issues Report Consultation Summary and Actions Sheet

Reference Number:	HWLDP-MIR-28
Organisation/Individual:	Sheelagh Southwell

Action:

Immediate Response Required	x
Meeting required with Respondent	
Issue for Area Local Development Plan	
Further Information Required	
Other (<i>Please Specify</i>)	

If no box ticked - issues raised will be dealt with in preparation of the Proposed Plan.

Issues Raised in Response:

Purpose of Main Issues Report	
NPF2 for Scotland	
Vision for the Highlands	
Inverness and A96	
The A96 Corridor	
Phasing of Development	
Developer Contributions	
East Inverness	
Nairn	
Tornagrain	
Smaller Settlements in A96	
Caithness and North Sutherland	
Easter Ross and Nigg	
Development of Local Centres	
Wider Countryside and Fragile Areas	
Population and Housing	x
Housing in the Countryside	
Affordable Housing	
Planning for an Ageing Population	
Gypsies/Travellers	
Retailing	
Developer Contributions	
Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage	

Previously used Land	
Wild Land	
Water Environment	
Renewable Energy	
Flooding	
Waste Management	
Air Quality	
Sustainable Design	
Business and Industrial Land	
Accessibility and Transport	
Agricultural Land	
Subdivision of Existing Crofts	
Allocation of Inbye Land	
New Crofting Township	
Small Scale New Crofts	
Coastal Development	
Forestry and Woodland	
Minerals	
Open Space and Physical Activity	
Access to the Outdoors	
Comments on Consultation Process (+ve)	
Comments on Consultation Process (-ve)	

Key:

Background	Spatial Strategy	Policy Options	Consultation
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Notes:

<p>Raises issue of lack of jobs Capacity of prison Response requested</p>

Action Sheet Completed by:	SH
Date:	8/12/09

Dawn Sutherland

From: Simon Hindson on behalf of devplans
Sent: 06 October 2009 14:57
To: Dawn Sutherland
Subject: FW: HWLDP

Can you log as a response to MIR

I have acknowledged via e-mail

Simon Hindson
Graduate Planner

Planning and Development Services
The Highland Council
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness
IV3 5NX

Telephone [REDACTED]

Keep up to date with the progress on the Highland wide Local Development Plan - <http://hwldp.blogspot.com>

-----Original Message-----

From: Sheelagh Southwell [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 October 2009 13:20
To: devplans
Subject: HWLDP

Sir/Madam,

I have read through your Highland Wide Development plan with interest.

Some aspects of this are very good, forward thinking and sound...others make me want to ask a few questions:

The main one being...where are all the thousands of people that we are building all these extra houses for coming from...and more importantly, where are they going to be working?

I think we all know that there is very little large industry in the Highlands and that most of the employers are small and medium sized enterprises, many of which are seasonal. This extra housing is going to change the face of the Highlands FOR EVER.

Has anyone actually asked the question about potential jobs? I know that we have many jobless in the area who are enjoying a better standard of housing than some of the elderly who have worked all their lives and have contributed towards this country. There are many immigrants who will want to live up here in peace and harmony with our beautiful countryside but will they be contributing to our economy? Many jobs they will be seeking will be at the low-paid end of the scale and will be seasonal.

If you walk about Nairn now you will see a very large percentage of one parent families and "immigrants family members" who have only one working and the rest of the family dependant on tax credits, family allowances etc. They wander about all day and can be quite intimidating to some folks as they gather on the High Street smoking and swearing etc. (seriously) Will this be the kind of town to which tourists will want to come and spend their holidays?

These large golf complexes you are proposing will attract folk from afar, we hope, but as we are building hotels on the golf course, do you seriously think they will come in to town and benefit our economy? The answer I think you will find will be no, as the golf hotels will do all they can to keep the golfer there to eat, drink and be entertained. Already each year we see a massive demand for

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beds in the 6 summer weeks in Nairn and the surrounding area, and then come October/November until about April, the large hotels are offering rooms at such low prices that it affects the livelihoods of the smaller B&B's, guesthouses and hotels.

Has anyone ever travelled down south and seen what corridor development looks like? Take a look at Livingstone, Glenrothes, or look further south. It is not a pretty site and when unemployment creeps in, the state is a very sorry one.

Do we really want the Highlands to become a "Northern Belt" like the Central Belt?

Remember why people chose to come to Nairn the surrounding areas. Get on to the computer, build an image of what you think you may create, work out where each household will get the money to pay for their housing, food etc, but be real about it...remember that the construction industry will only need the folks to work in it while housing is needed. Look at the impact in a few years of the children of all these extra folks, that will not be able to find work here and will then move to try and get jobs further south or become themselves a drain on the tax payer.

Has anyone looked at the capacity of the local prison in Inverness to see if it can cope with the larger percentage of inmates that it will have due to population expansion? Really... there will be a need for it, especially when there are no jobs to be found, the country runs out of handouts and these folks affected still want a good standard of living even though they have no income. Crime will be where they will turn to.

We need to take off the rose-coloured glasses, get real, answer the fundamental questions...do a proper study of the local economy etc and decide then, if we need all this extra expansion.

I would appreciate some feedback to my email and hope that it will not be of the usual generic tosh genre.

Regards
Sheelagh Southwell

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