

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

Reference Number:	HWLDP-MIR-49
Organisation/Individual:	Tarbat Community Council (Hamish Mackenzie)

Action:

Immediate Response Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting required with Respondent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issue for Area Local Development Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further Information Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

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		Previously used Land	
NPF2 for Scotland		Wild Land	
Vision for the Highlands		Water Environment	
Inverness and A96		Renewable Energy	
The A96 Corridor		Flooding	
Phasing of Development		Waste Management	
Developer Contributions		Air Quality	
East Inverness		Sustainable Design	
Nairn		Business and Industrial Land	
Tornagrain		Accessibility and Transport	
Smaller Settlements in A96		Agricultural Land	
Caithness and North Sutherland		Subdivision of Existing Crofts	
Easter Ross and Nigg	x	Allocation of Inbye Land	
Development of Local Centres		New Crofting Township	
Wider Countryside and Fragile Areas		Small Scale New Crofts	
Population and Housing		Coastal Development	
Housing in the Countryside		Forestry and Woodland	
Affordable Housing		Minerals	
Planning for an Ageing Population		Open Space and Physical Activity	
Gypsies/Travellers		Access to the Outdoors	
Retailing		Comments on Consultation Process (+ve)	
Developer Contributions		Comments on Consultation Process (-ve)	
Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage			

Key:

Background	Spatial Strategy	Policy Options	Consultation
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Notes:

Preferred option for Easter Ross & Nigg should not disadvantage communities in Easter Ross i.e. Portmahomack, Inver, Fearn etc.
(General Comments)

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

TARBAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Hamish J. Mackenzie OBE (Chairman)
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The Director of Planning and Development
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H.C. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE		
19 OCT 2009		
PASS TO	INITIALS	DATE
SB		
MM		
		8th October, 2009
Highland Wide Local Development Plan		

Dear Sir

Highland Wide Local Development Plan

1. So far as Easter Ross is concerned, it is noted that page 27 of the Main Issues Report describes, and the map shows, an area along the coast from Dingwall through Alness and Invergordon to the Nigg Yard which is called the "Preferred Option". Great care should be taken to ensure that concentration on the Preferred Option area does not disadvantage the natural growth of balanced communities in Easter Ross villages like Portmahomack, Inver, Fearn, etc. which are outside the Preferred Option area. Many of these villages were home to workers at the Nigg Yard in its previous incarnation, and it would be ironic if, as a result of the proposed new policy, a revival of the Yard benefited areas within the Preferred Option area but not those outside it.

2. The Preferred Option area for some extraordinary reason ignores the fact that Tain itself is, and has always been, the natural commercial, etc. centre of Easter Ross and needs to be allowed to thrive both for its own sake and for the sake of the catchment area which depends on it. Whilst no-one could reasonably object to economic growth in areas like Dingwall, Alness and Invergordon within the Preferred Option area, most people in areas like ours depend on Tain. Unfortunately Tain's shopping facilities have declined markedly in recent years, so that instead of a 17 mile round trip to Tain people in Portmahomack have to go 40 miles for an acceptable supermarket at Alness, or 60 miles for a limited range of shops in Dingwall, or 80 miles for a full range of shops in Inverness. Could the Preferred Option not be extended to include Tain?

3. Presumably the current Ross & Cromarty East Local Plan is to be updated for the Preferred Option area, but there is no mention of any updating for the

rest of Easter Ross. This may be an oversight, but it is important that this is done, otherwise for the period of the next Plan any planning decisions affecting places like Tain, Inver, Portmahomack and Fearn would be taken on the basis of the land use, etc. laid down in the last Plan.

Yours faithfully

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Hannish J Mackenzie