

Item 11

Planning Policy and Guidance for Onshore Wind Energy

Draft Supplementary Guidance:
Onshore Wind Energy

Dreachd ÌM Leasachail:
Lìth Gaoithe Air-tìr

Making places
Making places

PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT SERVICE



The Highland
Council
Comhairle na
Gàidhealtachd

April 2011
An Giblean 2011

Draft Onshore Wind Energy Supplementary Guidance (April 2011)



- Interim report on the results of consultation.
- Comments received from 139 parties.
- Report identifies key issues raised in consultation responses.
- Outlines a number of key areas of work that officers are engaged in.

Typology



Table 2: Wind Energy Development Categories
Clàr 2: Roinnean Leasachadh Lùth Gaoithe

Category	Capacity Criteria	Supplementary Criteria (meets one or more of the criteria)	Broad advice on the applicability of elements of the Supplementary Guidance
MICRO (e.g. micro turbine)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> under 50KW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only applicable to single turbine applications Turbine below 15 metres to hub and with a rotor diameter not exceeding 4m Applications that are considered 'permitted development' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is developing separate specific guidance on micro-renewables.
SMALL (e.g. small scale community development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50KW to 5MW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turbines below 30 metres to hub Turbines up to 3 in number 	Refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development Guidelines Additional Guidance Appendix 1 Appendix 2
MEDIUM (e.g. large scale community development or small scale commercial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> over 5MW and up to 20MW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turbines below 50 metres to hub Turbines up to 7 in number Applications which fall into a category within the scope of an Environmental Impact Assessment 	Refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Framework Development Guidelines Additional Guidance Appendix 1 Appendix 2
LARGE (e.g. large scale commercial wind farm development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> over 20MW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turbines above 50 metres to hub and/or above 80 metres to tip will automatically be considered 'large scale' Groupings of 8 or more turbines will be considered 'large scale' regardless of output or height 	Refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Framework Development Guidelines Additional Guidance Appendix 1 Appendix 2

Methodology

Stage 1 – Identify areas of significant protection

Stage 2 – Identify other constraints and policy criteria

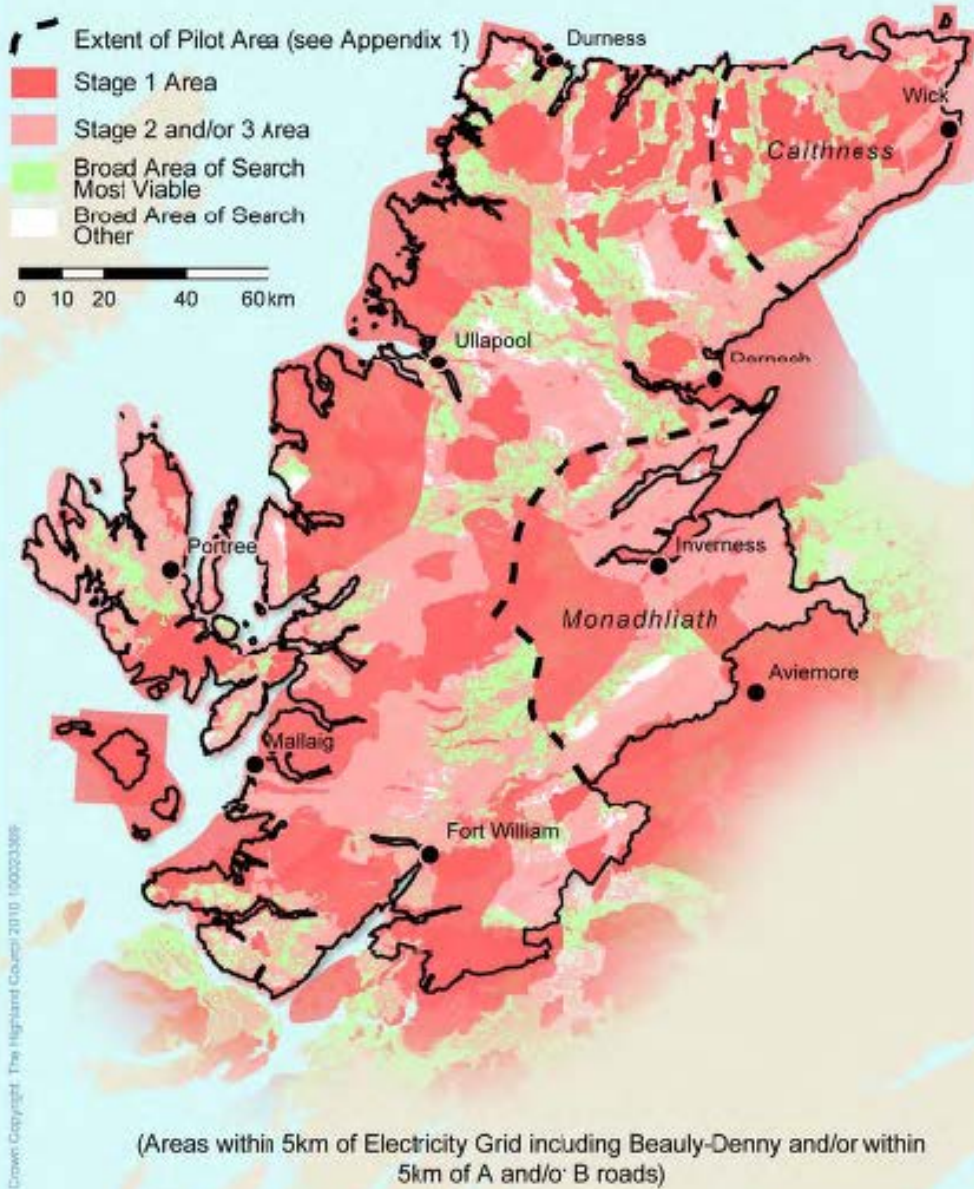
Stage 3 – Refine remaining areas of no significant constraints to take account of: (various considerations listed)

Stage 4 – Identify broad areas of search

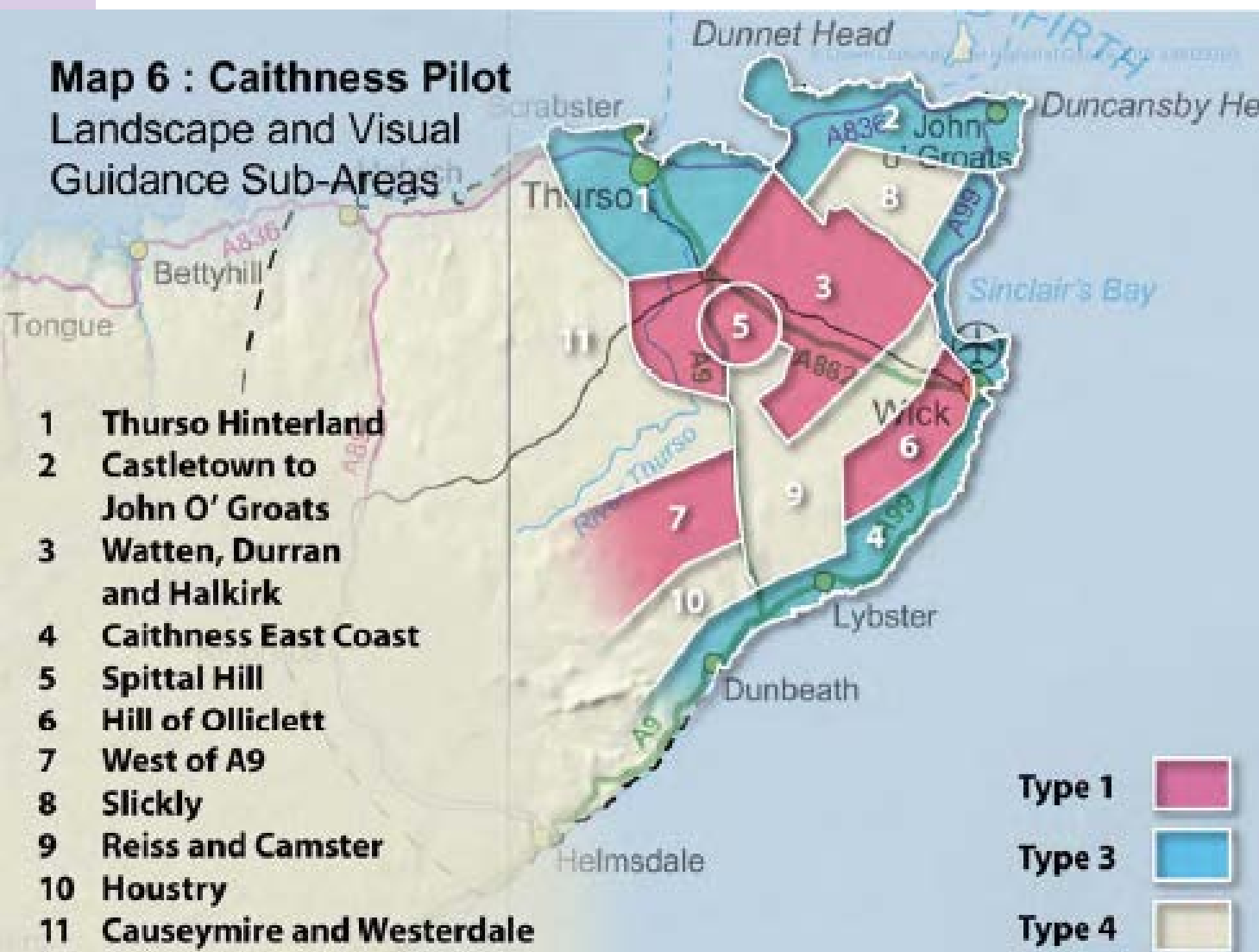


Map 4b:

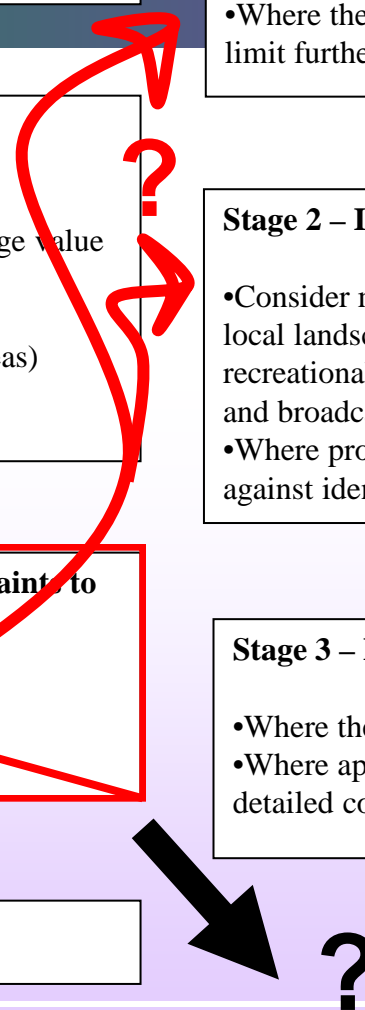
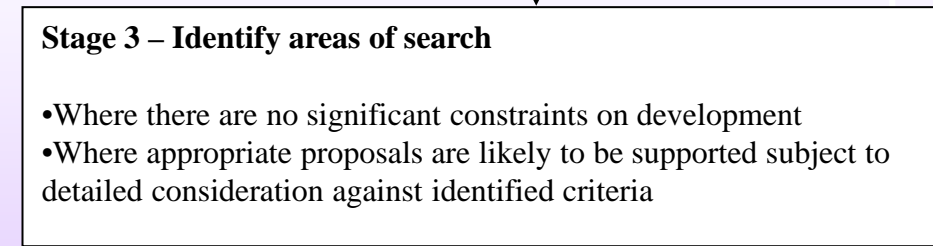
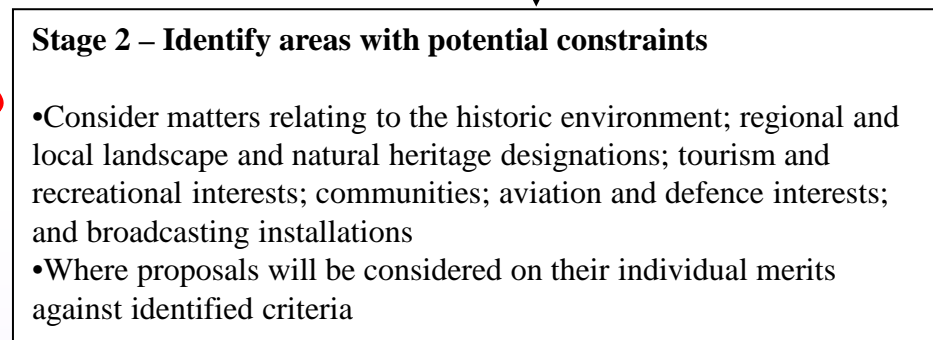
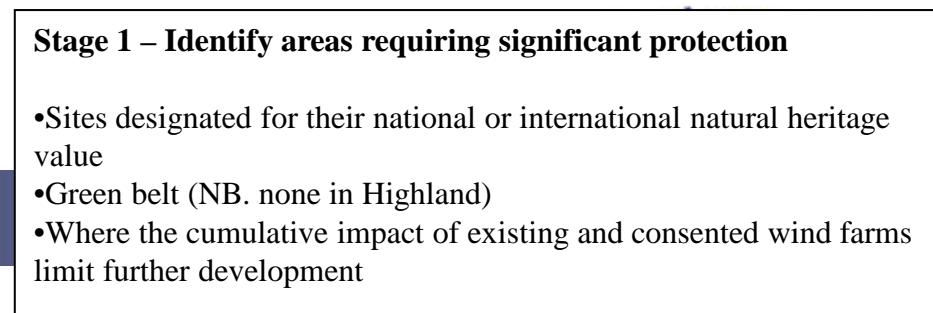
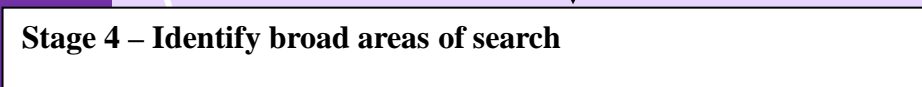
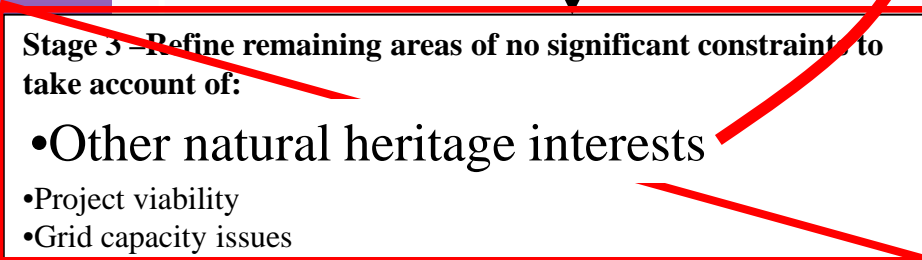
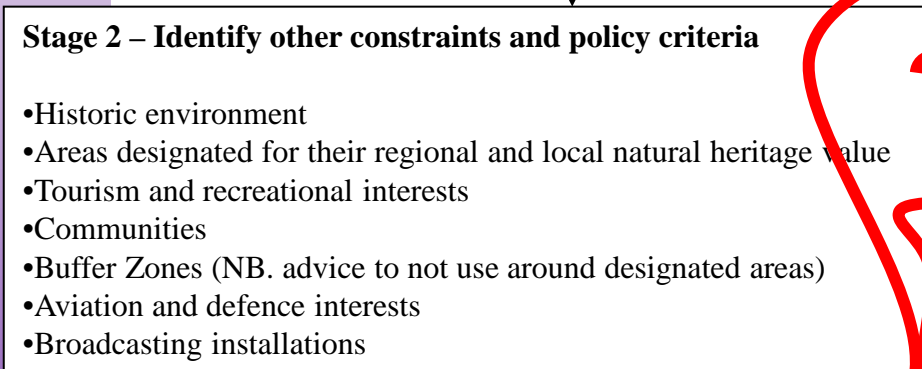
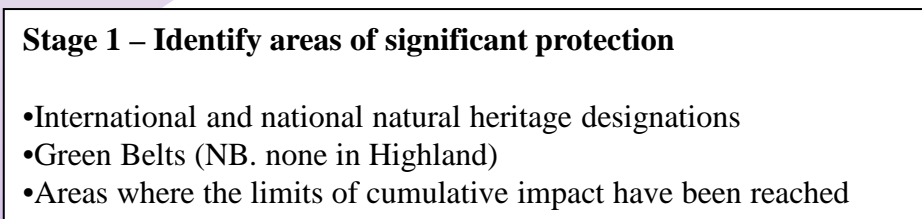
Highlighting Potential of Most Viable Areas of Opportunity Within Broad Areas of Search



Map 6 : Caithness Pilot Landscape and Visual Guidance Sub-Areas



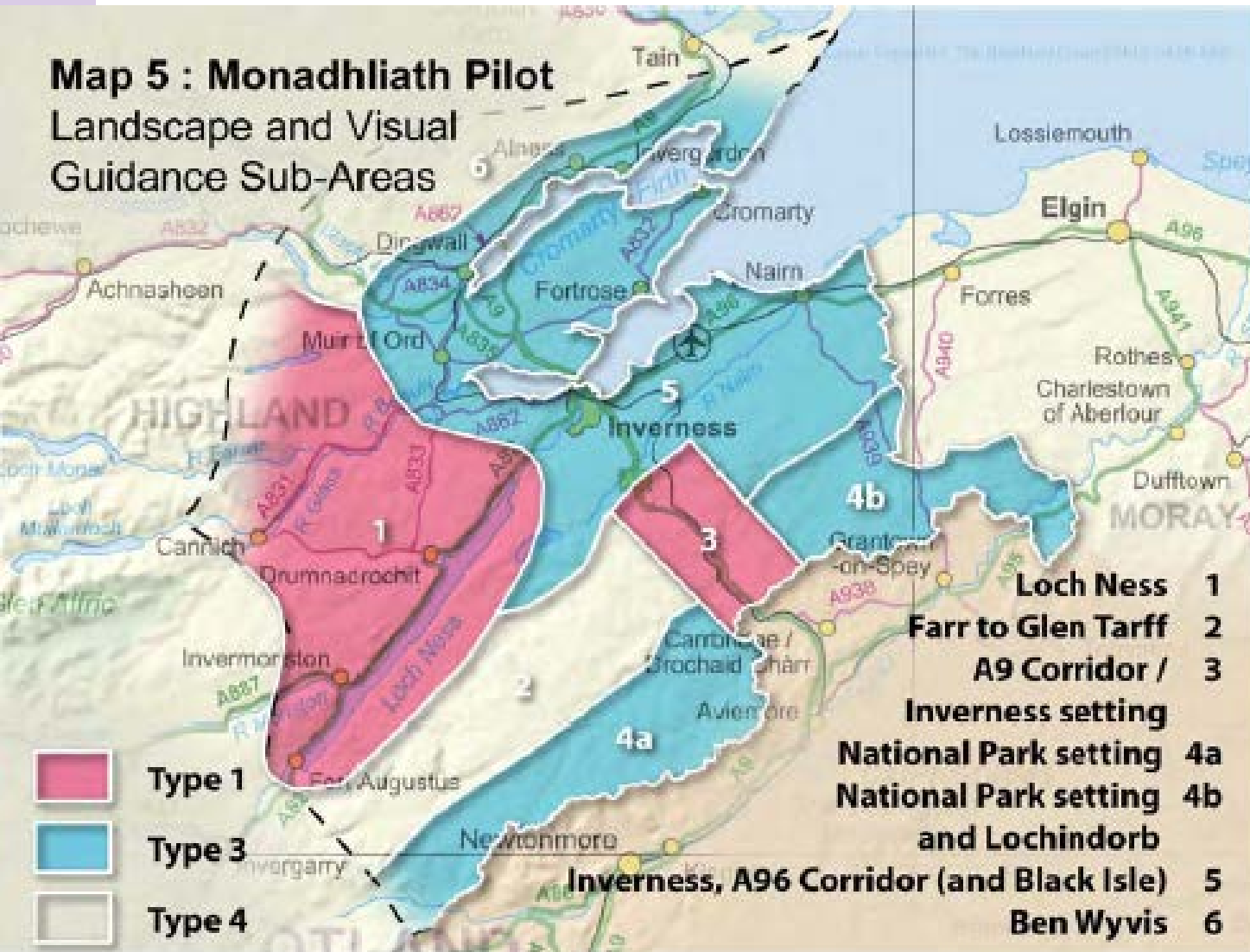
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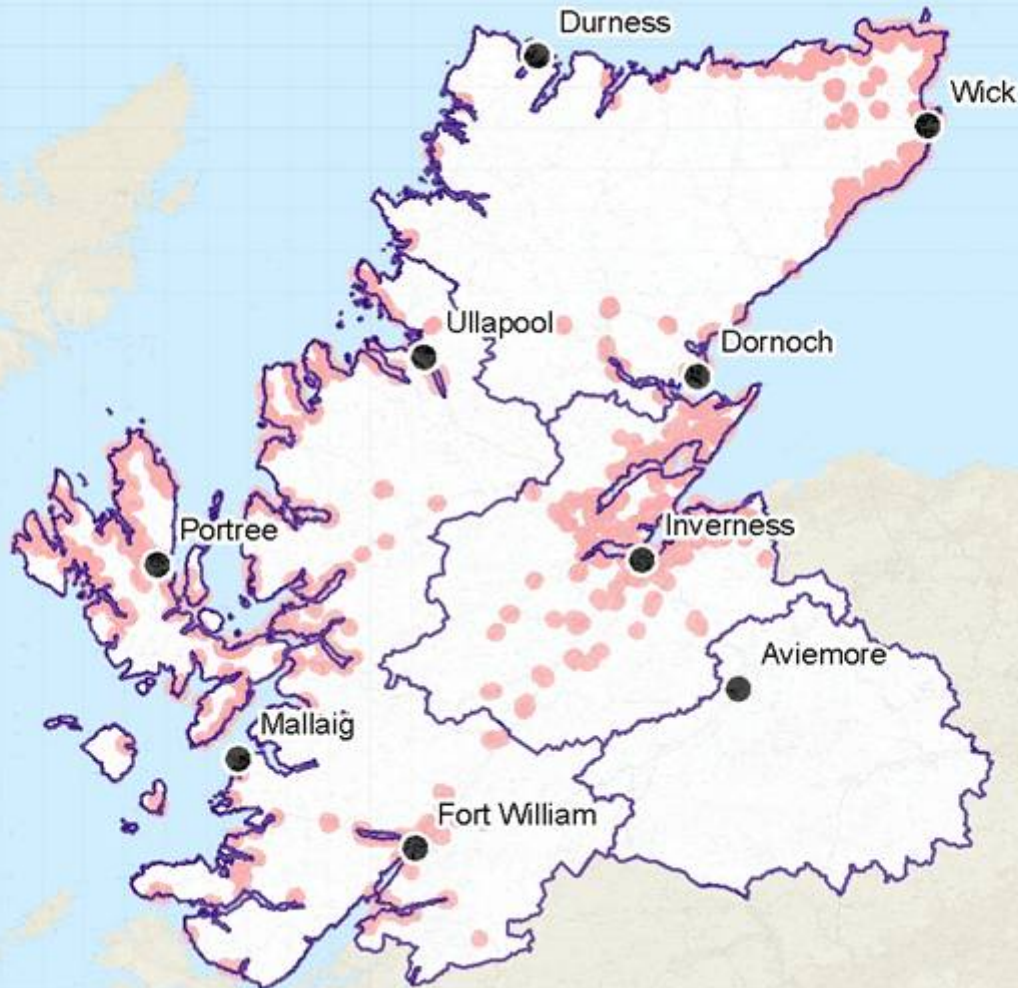


- Policies
- Landscape and Visual Guidance
- Wild Land
- Communities and Residential Amenity

Map 5 : Monadhliath Pilot Landscape and Visual Guidance Sub-Areas



Settlement Development Areas and 2km separation 'steer'





Recommendation

That Committee agrees:

- that any comments of Committee on the contents of this report or on the intended next steps be taken into consideration by officers in preparing a further report for Committee consideration at its meeting in March 2012;
- that the further report provides the full summary of issues raised, recommended response to issues and revised Supplementary Guidance, together with the intended arrangements for and timing of public consultation on the revised Guidance and associated Environmental Report.