

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

Reference Number:	<b>HWLDP-MIR-262</b>
Organisation/Individual:	Spittal Windfarm Opposition Group (John Brown)

**Action:**

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

*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	
Tomagraim	
Smaller Settlements in A96	
Caithness and North Sutherland	
Easter Ross and Nigg	
Development of Local Centres	
Wider Countryside and Fragile Areas	
Population and Housing	
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	x
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>Residential amenity should not be affected by windfarms          Unacceptable cumulative impact needs to be addressed          Need to protect buffer zones between special protection areas</p>
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Action Sheet Completed by:	SH
Date:	14/12/09

**Simon Hindson**

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**From:** john brown [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 November 2009 19:35

**To:** devplans

**Subject:** Response to Highland Wide Local Development Plan Main Issues Report consultation

Sir

Please find attached our response to the Highland Wide Local Development Plan Main Issues Report Consultation.

A hard copy follows in the post.

Yours faithfully

John Brown  
Chairman  
Spittal Windfarm Opposition Group  
[www.spittalwindfarmopposition.co.uk](http://www.spittalwindfarmopposition.co.uk)

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09/11/2009

# Spittal Windfarm Opposition Group

"YOU CAN make a difference"

[www.spittalwindfarmopposition.co.uk](http://www.spittalwindfarmopposition.co.uk)

H.C. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE		
10 NOV 2009		
PASS TO	INITIALS	DATE
FILE REF:		

Upper Larel Farm  
HALKIRK  
Caithness  
KW12 6UZ

Director of Planning and Development  
The Highland Council  
Glenurquhart Road  
INVERNESS  
IV3 5BR

06 November 2009

Dear Sir

## Response to the Highland wide Local Development Plan – Main Issues Report

### Sustainable Development and Climate Change – Renewable Energy

I am writing on behalf of Spittal Windfarm Opposition Group, which represents the large number of people opposed to the building of a thirty turbine wind farm on Spittal Hill, Caithness. My comments however, apply throughout Caithness and fall into three areas.

#### 1. Residential Amenity

Scottish Planning Policy 6 and the recent clarification from Minister Jim Mather's office make it clear that residential amenity should not be detrimentally affected in the long-term by wind farm developments and that this protection is afforded to single dwellings, as well as towns and villages, both within and without a separation distance of 2 kilometres.

It is appropriate that this important policy safeguard be incorporated into the Local Plan.

#### 2. Cumulative Impacts

The report rightly identifies the need to afford significant protection from the cumulative impacts of wind farms. It does not however, quantify what constitutes an unacceptable cumulative impact. This needs to be addressed so that it is clear to all involved where wind farms would or would not be acceptable.

#### 3. Special Protection Area – Caithness Lochs

The report identifies the need to protect areas of National or International natural heritage value from the impact of wind farms. The bodies of water and lochs that make up the Caithness Lochs SPA

support internationally important numbers of migratory geese and swans. Whilst here they use all the bodies of water and travel between them and their surrounding feeding grounds. It is ludicrous to protect the surface water area but not the feeding grounds in between. It may well state in planning policy that buffer zones are not allowed but this would appear to go against the spirit of Natura 2000.

Yours faithfully

A black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature of John Brown.

John Brown  
Chairman  
Spittal Windfarm Opposition Group