

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

9th September 2010

Agenda Item	
Report No	

West Highland and Islands Local Plan

Report by Director of Planning and Development

Summary

In line with Standing Orders, this report seeks a decision by Council to statutorily adopt the West Highland and Islands Local Plan.

1. Completing the Plan's Statutory Procedures

- 1.1 The West Highland and Islands Local Plan has completed all of its statutory consultation and other procedures except its final adoption. Planning, Environment and Development Committee has exercised its delegated functions in approving the Plan content and responding to various stages of public consultation. Latterly, Scottish Government appointed Reporters have considered the Plan through its Examination (public local inquiry) process and Scottish Ministers have considered conformity with national policy and objectives.
- 1.2 The Scottish Government has now confirmed by letter that the Scottish Ministers have cleared the Plan for adoption. It is now for The Highland Council to formally adopt the Plan in the same form as it was advertised in May 2010 (see link from Background Paper 1) but with factual updates and new titles. Subject to no further directions from Scottish Ministers or a Court of Session challenge on a point of procedure, the Plan will then be afforded its "full" statutory status as part of the Development Plan in the meaning accorded by the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended).
- 1.3 Copies of the adopted version of the Plan must, and will, be advertised, placed on public deposit and sent to Scottish Ministers. Members will also be sent a copy of the final version if relevant to their Committee duties or Ward interests. The Plan's content complies with the Council's Gaelic Language Plan and provision is made within the existing Planning and Development Service budget for undertaking the final statutory processes, including publishing the Local Plan in its adopted form.

Recommendation

Council is asked to adopt the West Highland and Islands Local Plan in the same form as it was published in May 2010.

Signature:

Designation: Director of Planning and Development

Date: 3 August 2010

Author: Tim Stott, Principal Planner (Ext. 2265)

Background Papers

1 West Highland and Islands Local Plan: Intention to Adopt: May 2010 - available via:
<http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/developmentplans/localplans/WestHighlandandIslandsLocalPlanIntentiontoAdopt2010.htm>

2 "Clearance letter" from Scottish Government to the Council dated 21 June 2010 - also available via the link above