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**From:** West Highlands and Islands Local Development Plan  
**Subject:** FW: West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan [#306]

**Section 1:** Joy Biggin

**Your personal  
and contact  
details**

**1.1 Name \***

**1.2 Are you? \*** a member of the public

**Protection** The land above the Lady Margaret Drive houses, Corpach, locally known as "the rowan wood"

**Site 1**

**3.1 Address /**

**Description of  
Land**

**3.2** Highland Council?

**Landowner's  
name (if  
known)**

**3.4 Why** Valued by the community for walking and recreation; a natural woodland.  
**should the  
land be  
protected?**

**Protection** Land around the Caledonian Canal, its tow paths, Corpach Basin, Neptune's Staircase and surrounding  
**Site 2** area

**3.5 Address /**

**Description of  
Land**

**3.6** Scottish Canals

**Landowner's  
name (if  
known)**

**3.8 Why** Valued by locals and tourists alike for recreation and enjoyment; a top tourist attraction in the  
**should the** Lochaber area.  
**land be**

protected?

#### 4.1 How do you want the West Highland and Islands area to change over the next 10–20 years?

Litter – get rid of the dreadful litter in lay-bys, at the roadsides and elsewhere. Tourists must think they have arrived in a slum.

Bins – try to have communal bins in rural areas and in towns where households have nowhere to keep their bins to ease the clutter of bins.

Roads – see that road maintenance contracts are enforced so that potholes are speedily filled in.

Towns eg Fort William – stop allowing out of town development especially supermarkets; give the High Street a chance!

Windfarm Development – stop allowing windfarm construction in our beautiful landscape; remember its not just the turbines, but all the roads and other infrastructure which devastate the area; our landscape is far more valuable than jobs and "community benefit."

<b>4.2 What do you think are the best, existing assets and characteristics of the area?</b>	The area's best asset is the natural landscape – mountains, sea, lochs, rivers, trees, wildlife.
	The Caledonian Canal and historic buildings such as castles and some of the other heritage buildings are also wonderful assets.
	Transport links are good and are important for locals and the tourist industry.
	Medical services – in general we are very lucky.
	The local people are terrific; volunteers do so much for their communities.
	Leisure facilities of every kind are excellent.

Think of your favourite landscapes, settlements, journeys, events and meeting places.

#### 4.4 How can these assets and characteristics best be safeguarded, improved or used to provide economic or community growth?

Landscape – protect our landscape by not allowing damaging planning applications eg windfarms, especially in scenic areas;

keep our area litter free; be vigilant re pollution.

Transport – ensure that we keep our communication links –rail – including the 2 Highland West Coast lines to Skye and Mallaig, the sleepers from Inverness and Fort William to London and the other rail routes; road – preserve the bus routes and ensure that roads are maintained; sea – be vigilant in ensuring that ferry services are preserved; air – work

to strengthen air links.

Communities and leisure facilities – help communities by supporting village halls, sports and recreation facilities, libraries and swimming pools.

Medical services –work to ensure all medical services remain good in the future.

Employment – encourage new jobs, but not at the expense of destroying or damaging other jobs; always remember that the tourist industry is the most important source of employment in the Highlands; work to improve modern communication links – Broadband etc.