

From:
Subject:

West Highlands and Islands Local Development Plan
FW: West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan [#339]

Section Katharina Lenz

**1: Your
personal
and
contact
details
1.1
Name ***

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

**Select a
topic to
comment
on** Tell us your vision for the area

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

I would love it to be a versatile and vivid area that keeps pride in its purity and natural appearance. I see it as a place that gives an opportunity to escape from the usual signs of development like lots of traffic, (cheap) commerce, exploitation of nature. The ideal for me would be to see structured public transport and the active encouragement to use alternative methods of travel like bicycles, buses with bike racks, car share. Cycling tracks either side of the road from Armadale to Broadford would support that very well.

In order to keep a natural appearance the planned street lights are unnecessary, disturbing even. People here love to see the starry skies and watch the northern lights. Street lights would clash with what I like about this part of the world, which is respect for nature and the circle of seasons.

4.2 What do you think are the best, existing assets and characteristics of the area? Think of your favourite landscapes, settlements, journeys, events and meeting places.

The best existing asset we have here is nature! That's why so many tourists feel attracted to this part of Skye and why we have more and more people moving here. In my opinion what nature has to offer should be supported and not eradicated. We should promote Sleat as an area that knows how to co exist with nature. I think that's the way forward as so many people in Britain –and Europe– seek exactly that remote feeling, Sleat has to offer.

I am originally from Germany and when I hear people from my country speaking about Scotland I hear this awe and admiration about Scottish nature and originality. Its become so rare in the rest of Europe– we should maintain it!

Also we have quite engaged folks around here that will help making it a welcoming and exciting place to move to and visit– shops with local produce, galleries, outdoor events, cultural events, recreational areas and/or all combined should be supported and promoted. We have a bit of that already but it would be a great benefit for everyone if there would be more woodland walks, tracks for nature observation, support for shops to upgrade, cycling maps with suggestions(more cycling tracks all together),...