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Brian MacKenzie  
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Our ref: LDP-270-3

6 October 2011

Dear Mr McKenzie

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT PLANNING)  
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008  
HIGHLAND COUNCIL – HIGHLAND-WIDE LOCAL PLAN  
NOTICE: REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

I am writing regarding Highland Wide Local Plan which was submitted to DPEA on the 6 May 2011 for examination by Scottish Ministers. Under Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning)(Scotland) Regulations 2008 the appointed reporters can request, by way of notice, further information in connection with the examination. This letter is a notice under Regulation 22.

The reporters have identified that further information, as listed below, should be provided by the Highland Council. It would be helpful if you could send this information to me, to pass on to the reporter, by 20 October 2011.

Issue 33 – Affordable Housing

With regard to issue 33, representation 229 says that the sixth paragraph of policy 33:

- (a) is vague and open-ended;
- (b) is not clear as to whether the contribution threshold begins now or whether it takes into account previous permissions; and
- (c) could be circumvented by a change of ownership.

In response, the council commends a change to say that the policy will apply from the date of adoption of the plan.

The reporter requests the following information:

- (i) In the sixth paragraph of policy 33, what is meant by “the primary landholding”?
- (ii) In the sixth paragraph of policy 33, what is meant by “a contribution”?
- (iii) What is to prevent this part of the policy being circumvented by a subdivision of the landholding, or by other changes in ownership arrangements?
- (iv) Is this part of the policy intended to operate in perpetuity from the date of adoption of the plan?
- (v) By way of illustration, if, on the same landholding, one house is permitted in year 1, a second in, say, year 6, and a third in, say, year 11, does that mean that an application for a fourth house in, say year 16, would incur a requirement for “a contribution towards affordable homes”? If so, what scale of contribution would be sought?

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and confirm that it and, in due course, the Council’s responses, have been posted on the Council’s website. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything you would like to clarify.

Yours sincerely

*Morag I Smith*  
**Development Plan Assistant**