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From: Brian MacKenzie

Sent: 01 December 2011 16:21

To: 'Morag.Smith@scotland.gsi.gov.uk'

Subject: RE: Highland-wide LDP - Hearing 27 September

Morag,

Please find attached the Council's response to the attached query I have retained the reporters questions for context. I have attached a word version of the below with highlighted text changes and additions.

Please will the council:

1. Provide revised wording for paragraphs 3.3, 8.4 and 9.3 for the reporters' consideration, to address the above points;

Council response-

Amended text for para. 3.3 with sentences of para. 3.4 to now be included in para. 3.3.

"Para. 3.3

It sets out a vision statement and spatial strategy for the area, taking on board the outcomes of the consultation on the Main Issues Report which was issued for public consultation in August 2009. Once adopted the Highland wide Local Development Plan will replace The Highland Structure Plan (2001) and all of the policies, recommendations and proposals contained within. The Highland wide Local Development Plan will also supersede the General Policies, as stated within the Appendix: Superseded elements of Local Plans, of the following Local Plans;

- *Inverness Local Plan (2006)*
- *Nairnshire Local Plan (2000)*
- *Ross and Cromarty East Local Plan (2007)*
- *Sutherland Local Plan (2010)*
- *Caithness Local Plan (2002)*
- *West Highland and Islands Local Plan (2010)*
- *Wester Ross Local Plan (2006)*
- *Badenoch and Strathspey Local Plan (1997) (in part).*

The land allocations in the above Local Plans will remain in place (unless an updated site allocation is given in the Highland wide Local Development Plan) until the time that the new area Local Development Plan is adopted. The Plan also sets the context for the Council's emerging area local development plans. These will consolidate and replace the existing local plans."

Council response-

"Para. 8.4

In assessing what a generous supply of land means in Highland, we have taken account of the target agreed between The Scottish Government and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) to grow the HIE area population to 500,000 people over the next 20 years. The HIE area covers Western Isles, Argyll and Bute, Orkney and Shetland as well as Highland. The Highland Council area accommodates nearly 50% of the existing population of the HIE area. The HwLDP seeks to contribute towards the HIE strategy through providing opportunity for growth within Highland and the HwLDP aspires to increase the population to 250,710 by 2031. This growth rate reflects support for a number of economic growth

areas such as: the transition of UHI to full University status, business growth at Inverness Airport, reuse of the Nigg fabrication yard; expansion of activities at Highland Deephaven and; development of wave and tidal energy in the Pentland Firth.”

Council response-

“Para. 9.3

“The development of the City and the wider Inverness Housing Market Area requires the continued delivery of effective land for development. To meet the identified gross housing land requirement for the Inverness Housing Market Area as identified in the Highland Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA), further land allocations have been brought forward to offer choice and flexibility in the land supply. These allocations taken together with land currently allocated in the Inverness Local Plan has the capacity to meet housing land requirements. Table 2 demonstrates the potential distribution of effective housing land to meet the land requirement as identified through the HNDA.”

Please will the council:

- 2. Confirm it is agreeable to the inclusion of a table of carry forward sites from existing area local plans as part of the appendix.**

The Council is agreeable to the inclusion of a table of superseded elements and retention within old Local Plans based on the statement for further information submitted by the Council to the request of 6 July; “Superseded Elements of Old Local Plans.” This document would require revision of the introductory sections to reflect the plan position. It is also the Council’s intention to append relevant extracts to each of the retained old Local Plans.

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