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Brian MacKenzie
Principal Planner
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The Highland Council
Glenurquhar Road
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Your ref:
Our ref: LDP-270-3

23 August 2011

Dear Mr McKenzie

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT PLANNING)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008
HIGHLAND COUNCIL – HIGHLAND WIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

I am writing regarding Highland Wide Local Development Plan which has been submitted to DPEA 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 6 September 2011.

Issue 36 Housing in the Countryside (Hinterland areas)

Representees have challenged the extent of the proposed hinterland boundary. With regard to those representations, the reporter would be grateful to learn:

1. How the extent of the proposed hinterland boundary was derived?
2. If from the Highland Structure Plan, how that boundary was derived? The hinterlands have been criticised by some as being too large, and therefore too restrictive on development.
3. How does the council respond to that charge?
4. In particular, how does it defend the inclusion of the area around Tain within the hinterland area, taking into account the arguments of the local community council?

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

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Development Plan Assistant

