

## By email to: <a href="mailto:sea.gateway@gov.scot">sea.gateway@gov.scot</a>

Ms Jennifer Mair Development Plans Highland Council (Local Development Plans) Glenurquhart Road, Inverness IV3 5NX Longmore House Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH

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Our case ID: 300019967 Your ref: 01555 - Screening 24 February 2020

Dear Ms Mair

## Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 The Highland Council - Housing in the Countryside Supplementary Guidance

## **Screening Report**

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 07 February 2020 about the above screening report. We have reviewed the screening report in our role as a Consultation Authority under the above Act, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(3). In doing so we have used the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of the effects on the environment. Please note that our view is based on main area of interest for the historic environment.

Our understanding is that this guidance will be based on a review of the existing Housing in the Countryside Supplementary Guidance and include updates on changes at the national policy level as well reflecting the adoption of the area local development plans for the Highland area. We note that you consider that the guidance offers further advice and detail on policies of the existing Highland-Wide LDP (including Policies 35, 36, 47 and 48) and that these have been subject to assessment as part of the LDP SEA. As a result we note that you consider that the guidance is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. In light of this and the information contained within the screening report we are content to agree that the guidance in itself is unlikely to have significant effects on the historic environmental.

However, as you will be aware, it is the responsibility of The Highland Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the guidance requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly.

We hope this is helpful. Please contact us if you have any questions about this response. The officer managing this case is Andrew Stevenson who can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 8960 or by email on <u>andrew.stevenson2@hes.scot</u>.

Yours sincerely

## **Historic Environment Scotland**

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