

21st December 2009

**RE: THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – WEST HIGHLAND & ISLANDS LOCAL PLAN
EXAMINATION REPRESENTATION NO: 317. SITE B6, MU6 & NU16 GLEN NEVIS
BUSINESS PARK (LDP-270-1)**

WRITTEN STATEMENT.

2)

This proposed development lies within the National Scenic Area and along the boundary of the Special Area of Conservation and will have serious detrimental visual impact within what is considered one of Scotland's most beautiful Mountain and Glen areas. Erosion of the boundaries of the 'Jewel in the Crown' within Lochaber will also importantly impact eventually on the economy of Lochaber which is highly dependent on, outdoor activity and recreational visitors, to the Outdoor Capital of the UK.

Although this area is not a designated National Park Area this should not detract or lessen the environmental importance or scenic value of the area. We urge you, therefore, not to deal with this in a way that would indicate that as a NSA the Ben Nevis and Glen Nevis area is of lesser importance than a NPA and that you do not underestimate the necessity for the strategic preservation and management of the environment of this area and its economic importance to Fort William and Lochaber.

3)

FWCC has for many years had serious concerns regarding the erosion of the boundaries between the Town and the Ben and Glen Nevis area. The Highland Council acknowledges that the MU16 development will have potential adverse effect on the local landscape! FWCC members recognise this piece meal development as a threat and intrusion to the Ben and Glen Nevis area.

5)

This area is part of a wider open space area which is being eroded and lost to the community, once built on this will never be recovered. Open spaces have a positive effect on community health and well being.

8)

Although this area is not a designated National Park Area this should not detract or lessen the environmental importance or scenic value of the area. We urge you, therefore, not to deal with this in a way that would indicate that as a NSA the Ben Nevis and Glen Nevis area is of lesser importance than a NPA and that you do not underestimate the necessity for the strategic preservation and management of the environment of this area and its economic importance to Fort William and Lochaber.

Patricia Jordan
Secretary
Fort William Community Council

All Correspondence to the Secretary.

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