



SUTHERLAND LOCAL PLAN

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICE
THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Map Booklet - Pre-Deposit Draft - May 2008*

*Please first read the explanatory note inside this cover 



ABOUT THIS VERSION OF THE LOCAL PLAN

The Council recently consulted on a draft Sutherland Local Plan and an accompanying draft Environmental Report during Winter 2007-08. However, since their publication the Scottish Government has queried the extent to which the consultation procedures that the Council has been following and has intended to follow would fit with the legal requirements for environmental assessment. The Council has therefore decided to consult further on the Plan and Environmental Report and to consult on a Supplement to the Environmental Report, before it makes any more decisions about the contents of the Plan.

To be clear about what version of the Plan is now available for comment and what stage it is at, the Council has given it a new title: "Pre-Deposit Draft, May 2008". The amended Plan Stages are explained further in paragraph 2.3 of the Written Statement part of the Pre-Deposit Draft Local Plan.

The content of the Plan only differs from the October 2007 version in references to its title and plan stages, including references to arrangements for consultation. In the Written Statement the amendments have been limited to: the front cover and addition of this explanatory note, the header on each page, the foreword, the contents page and paragraphs 2.3, 2.9 and 2.10 in section 2 "Introduction & Context", including addition of the diagram. In the Map Booklet the amendments have been limited to: the front cover and addition of this explanatory note. Please note that on the footers of each page of the Map Booklet and on the titles of the large folded maps, the title of the document has not been changed but those are to be regarded and referred to as part of the "Pre-Deposit Draft, May 2008".

There is now opportunity for the public to submit comments on the documents available. Details of how to submit comments are provided in paragraph 2.9 of the Local Plan Written Statement and in the Supplement to the Environmental Report. The deadline for comments is referred to in the Public Notice and on the Council's website.

However, your attention is particularly drawn to the explanation in paragraph 2.9 of the Local Plan Written Statement that if you have already submitted representations to us as part of the recent consultation on the Plan and Environmental Report referred to above, please do not send these to us again. They will be carried forward and considered carefully by the Council after the new deadline.

Doing further consultation at this stage on both the Plan and its Environmental Report (including Supplement) provides opportunity to ensure that the process of Strategic Environmental Assessment is sound and that the work carried out so far on the Local Plans, including input from the public and organisations, is used to maximum effect. This addresses the concern which has been raised by the Scottish Government and which was considered by the Council's Planning, Environment & Development Committee on 19 March 2008.