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Mr Richard Hartland
Head of Planning and Building Standards
The Highland Council
Glenurquhart Road
INVERNESS
IV3 5NX

Our ref: LDP-270-2

8 January 2010

Dear Mr Hartland

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – SUBMISSION OF UNRESOLVED ISSUES FOR THE
PROPOSED SUTHERLAND LOCAL PLAN
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT PLANNING)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008**

We refer to our appointment by the Scottish Ministers to conduct the examination of the Sutherland Local Plan. We have completed the examination, and now submit our report, enclosing four bound copies.

In our examination we considered all 102 issues arising from unresolved representations which were identified by the council. In each case we have taken account of the summaries of the representations and the responses, as prepared by the council, and the original representations, and we have set out our conclusions and recommendations in relation to each issue in our report. We identified the matter of housing land supply as a separate issue, which is referenced as Issue 103 in our report.

The examination process also included a comprehensive series of unaccompanied site inspections and, for some issues, we requested additional information from the council and other parties. We did not require to hold any hearings or formal inquiries.

Subject to the limited exceptions as set out in section 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and in the Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, the council is now required to make the modifications to the proposed local plan as set out in our recommendations.

The council should also make any consequential modifications to the text or maps which arise from these modifications, and may also make any necessary non-material corrections to the plan. Separately, the council will require to make any necessary adjustments to the final environmental report and to the report on the appropriate assessment of the plan.

A letter will be issued to all those who submitted representations to inform them that the examination has been completed and that the report has been submitted to the council. It will advise them that the report is now available to view at our web site at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/decisions-appeals/Appeals/PlanInquiries> ; at the council's Planning and Building Standards office at Drummuie, Golspie and the Headquarters at Glenurquhart Road, Inverness; and that it will also be posted on the council's web site at <http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/developmentplans/localplans/SutherlandLocalPlanExamination.htm>. The documents relating to the examination should be retained on the council's web-site for a period of six weeks following the adoption of the plan by the council.

Yours sincerely

Allison Coard
Reporter

Richard Dent
Reporter