

**(xi)Mr D Macpherson**

**To the Leader**

**'Regarding future Community Council Elections across Highland:**

**Can you give an assurance that your stated commitment and the Highland Council's stated commitment to 'Localism' is fully met.**

**Allowing the several Community Councils in abeyance and all the many vacant Community Councillor posts to be effectively advertised, (including on lamppost posters and across the broad range of media and social media channels available today, as currently happens in other Scottish local authorities).**

**In so doing the Highland Council will be promoting and encouraging participation by the broadest cross-section of citizens, including a complete range of ages (from 16+ years) and all demographics of people in their communities, to participate in local decision making and thereby helping to better shape developments and improvements to their local areas, and only then will the Highland Council be able to demonstrate a genuine reinforcing of its stated desire for 'Localism' and to greater community participation in decisions affecting each community's local environment.'**

Localism is developing and community councils are one aspect of localism. I propose that you and I have a discussion with relevant officers to examine how we promote recruitment and election to community councils.