

## West Lothian Local Development Plan Proposed Plan

Response from: Mr & Mrs Barnes, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### General Feedback

1. We welcome and congratulate WLC and staff for the huge amount of work and time that has gone into compiling the plan as well as considerable thought into the sustainable development of our diverse communities.
2. We would like more opportunity to discuss and feed back into the consultation process, as well as more resources and autonomy to make decisions locally at neighbourhood rather than at county level.

### Specific Feedback

1. Page 5: Welcome the vision for the whole development plan and would like to see how every development proposal stays true to this vision.
2. Page 6: Key Aims: given the importance over the next 10 years in moving away from fossil fuels, there ought to be more emphasis given to the use of renewables and massive increase in energy efficiency in existing and new buildings.
3. Page 13: No development at Burghmuir, Linlithgow, should remove prime agricultural land or deplete rich soils for horticulture for the production of local food.
4. Page 13 etc: Linlithgow Loch is in need of improvement to reduce the impact of its eutrophic state and cyanobacterial blooms. We welcome the work of Historic Environment Scotland, WLC, SEPA, Scottish Water, Loch Catchment Management Group, and local community groups such as the Anglers, Transition Linlithgow, Linlithgow Natural Grid and specialists to find new and innovative solutions. WLC should take on board the findings of the looming Loch Summit 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Linlithgow Natural Grid also have several ideas to extract heat from the loch water for local district energy schemes that could increase oxygen levels and improve water quality, amongst other solutions. We would welcome further engagement on these proposals.
5. Page 35: To stay in line with the overarching vision of the plan, far greater emphasis is required to promote and increase sustainable transport networks. Building new roads should be a last resort as in the majority of cases they simply fill up with more cars. More detail should be given as to what new sustainable transport would mean, e.g. more electric vehicle charging points, buses, trains, car sharing, etc.
6. Page 47: No prime agricultural land with good, mature topsoil should be lost for the sake of any other economic activity.
7. Pages 62-66: We welcome WLC's proposals on mitigating and adapting to climate change and would like to continue our engagement, through Linlithgow Natural Grid and like-minded local and regional groups, such as community development trusts and Transition groups and others, with regard to plans led locally or by the council for renewable, district heating and energy efficiency. We would like to see an even bolder approach through social enterprise to help alleviate fuel poverty, create more local and sustainable jobs and recycle energy savings and benefits back into communities and jobs.
8. Page 75 etc: We are very pleased that the council is supportive of wind, solar and district energy developments.

**Other Comments:**

9. Far more resources and services should be deployed in local neighbourhoods, particularly those of low income and high unemployment such as Fauldhouse.
10. Various places: we welcome the wide reference to the enhancement of recreation and would like to see as much investment as possible for facilities for young people and making all local neighbourhoods safe to play around residential sites making cars subservient and reducing all speed limits to 20 mph with more play facilities and traffic calming measures.
11. Linlithgow Cross and Vennel Flats: are there any proposals to develop/re-develop this area and associated buildings in the next 10-25 years?