



West Lothian Council

THE WEST LOTHIAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP)

CONSULTATION RESPONSE PORTAL

Have Your Say on the Proposed Plan

Introduction

West Lothian Council has published its Proposed Plan together with supporting documents including an Environmental Report (SEA), Habitats Regulation Appraisal, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Equalities & Human Rights Impact Assessment. These can be viewed on the West Lothian Council website at www.westlothian.gov.uk/proposedplan.

If you wish to make representations on the Proposed Plan or associated documents you are encouraged to use this online consultation portal. It's quick and easy and will help us to process representations more efficiently, reducing the overall cost and environmental impact of the exercise.

You do not need to complete this questionnaire in a single visit. Just simply put your Survey Reference Number (CODE) in the top right corner of the screen to allow you to continue with your submission at a later date.

If you need assistance with completing or submitting your representation online please call the Customer Service Centre (CSC) on 01506 280000. Please advise the Customer Service Centre that your enquiry relates specifically to the Local Development Plan and ask for it to be logged and directed to the Development Plan and Environment Team. Someone will contact you. Alternatively you can email us at wlldp@westlothian.gov.uk We will endeavour to respond as quickly as possible but in any event within 3 working days of receiving your enquiry.

It is important that all representations are submitted no later than midnight on Sunday 22 November 2015. Representations received after that time will not be considered.

Your comments should be concise, having regard to paragraph 84 of Scottish Government Circular 6/2013: Development Planning which states that representations should be no more than 2,000 words plus any limited supporting productions.

Data Protection Statement

Please be aware that when you make representations on the Proposed Plan through the consultation portal (and/or in a conventional written format) personal information provided as part of a representation cannot be treated as confidential. Representations require to be made available online and for public inspection at the council's office (this would include your name but would exclude any information which would be subject to the Data Protection Act 1998 i.e. signature, postal address, telephone number, email).

We are also required to pass these details to the Scottish Government's Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA). This is because they may at a later date wish to invite you to an Examination in Public of the Proposed Plan to discuss your representation.

Before using the consultation portal you should also note that any information posted may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. West Lothian Council will not be liable for any loss or damage arising from or in connection with the disclosure of any information including the disclosure of user generated content.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Your Details

Please indicate in what capacity you are making this submission: *

Please note that this is a mandatory field

- as an individual (and representing your own views)
- as a representative of a private or commercial organisation (and representing the views of that organisation)
- as a representative of a public organisation (and representing the views of that organisation)
- as an agent (and making comments on behalf of other individuals that you represent or third parties)
- other

Please complete the following contact information: *

Please note that this is a mandatory field

Title

First Name

Surname

Email Address

Telephone

Postal Address

Organization Name

Client's Name

Is this the first time you have made a written representation on the Proposed Plan? *

Please note that this is a mandatory field

- yes
- no

If you have previously submitted a site to be considered for development when the Council was initially seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI), or commented on the Local Development Plan at the Main Issues Report (MIR) stage, or made a previous submission to the Proposed Plan please provide the reference given to you at that time if known.

EOI & MIR reference number can be found on any email or written communication we may have previously sent you

Enter EOI (Expression of Interest) reference here

Enter MIRQ (Main Issues Report) reference here

Please enter your survey reference number in the text box below. *

Survey Reference Number (CODE) can be found in the top right corner of this screen
 Survey Reference Number (CODE) will allow you to save your responses and return to finish the survey later

Please keep a note of your Survey Reference Number (CODE) for future reference

Please note that this is a mandatory field

2. FOREWORD (page 4)

This introduction by the Leader of the Council establishes the role of the LDP and how it will help deliver the council's core objectives.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

Please use the text box below for comments.

Your comments should be concise and limited to no more than 2,000 words. You should fully explain the issues you wish to be considered when the Proposed Plan is presented to Scottish Ministers for Examination. Please indicate whether you are seeking a change to the Proposed Plan (i.e. your representation is an objection) or if your representation supports the Proposed Plan as written.

Objection to WLC local plan by Plan item

4:3 subsection "The Natural and Historic Environment"

I object to the plan on the grounds that area H-WB17 coincides with land that was originally formal parkland around Hiddry Castle and which was converted to use as a golf course in the early 1980s, thus providing excellent amenity space in the community

8 "Development proposals by settlement" - Winchburgh

Site ref: H-WB 17 Location/site address: Site west of Hiddry Castle

I would like to register an objection to the proposal for the site North West of Hiddry Castle as a "mixed-use" development site (250 houses). Development at this site would have severely negative consequences for the setting of Hiddry Castle and the amenity land surrounding it. In addition I would like to see the area around Hiddry Castle protected as a Designed Landscape; a 400m protected zone around Hiddry Castle to protect the setting of the castle; the ancient landscaped trees on the Hiddry Castle golf course given a tree protection order and removal of site H-WB17 on the grounds of coalescence between Winchburgh and Broxburn, impact on the setting of Hiddry Castle and destruction of uniquely high quality amenity land (no replacement golf course could offer the same setting as one with Hiddry Castle at its core). Hiddry Castle is a 14th century tower house which is recognised as being of outstanding historical and architectural merit by Historic Scotland. Prior to restoration the castle was categorised as a Scheduled Ancient Monument of National Importance and is now a grade "A" Listed Building. Hiddry Castle can therefore justly lay claim to being an important part of Scotland's cultural and architectural heritage as well as being an important historical site within West Lothian. The current owners are advanced on a 20 year restoration programme for Hiddry Castle and it is open to the public on an annual basis for part of the year. Hiddry Castle was owned by the Setons from the time of the Norman Conquest. The present day castle was built in the 1360s. Hiddry Castle is virtually unchanged since that date. It is one of the oldest surviving castles in Scotland. The setting of Hiddry Castle has been viewed as of special interest for hundreds of year as numerous drawings and paintings illustrate. The preservation of the setting of the castle and the valuable amenity area for the community of Winchburgh (which the castle and golf course together constitute) should be upheld with a protection zone of 400m established around Hiddry Castle. The castle sits in an elevated position on top of a volcanic plug. Its setting was enhanced with a designed landscape which remains almost in its entirety. This designed landscape now comprises the Hiddry Castle Golf Course, which is an eminently appropriate use of this historic parkland. One of the most visible elements of this is the walled garden which was built in the 16th century and is one of the oldest (if not the oldest) walled garden in Scotland. A key feature of the historic parkland are the ancient trees some of which were most likely planted around the late 17th century when the castle was the home of the Hope family. There are two fishponds at the far East of the designed landscape which still exist and indeed the path of the Hiddry Burn was straightened to suit the designed landscape. In fact the proposed development area (H-WB17) is one of the best preserved and most scenic parts of the designed landscape. I object to development of this site as it contravenes the following policies: EIV 1, Landscape character and special landscape areas; the setting of Hiddry Castle has been viewed as of special interest for hundreds of year as numerous drawings and paintings illustrate. It is also familiar to thousands of commuters from the Glasgow/Edinburgh railway line. The castle and its setting is one of the key attractions for users of the canal towpath, it is a visitor attraction in its own right, attracting local visitors and tourists each year during its public opening period. It also has a public footpath and a bridleway running through and bordering the area and it is a key destination for hundreds of walkers, cyclists and horse riders. With an increase in the population of Winchburgh it is even more important to preserve the setting of one of West Lothian's most ancient and impressive heritage sites. EIV 7, Countryside Belts and settlement setting; it is important to contain the boundaries of the two villages where they are at risk of coalescence in order to avoid the risk of creeping developments and eventual urban sprawl. There is a planned development site in Broxburn very close to the South of Winchburgh. The development of H-WB7 would bring it even closer (to within a few hundred yards). EIV 7 identified the area South of Winchburgh as green corridor. The area is also an important wildlife corridor with hen harriers, kestrels, swifts, stoats, roe deer and newts all having been sighted within a few hundred yards of Hiddry Castle. It is very important to preserve green space between Winchburgh and Broxburn East. The area between the two bings of Winchburgh and Albyn creates a natural green space between the towns of Winchburgh and Broxburn East and is an attractive agricultural landscape further enhanced by the setting of the canal. The canal is a major asset for West Lothian. It is not only an important part of our industrial heritage but offers an attractive landscape and provides an artery for recreational canal traffic from Broxburn and as far afield as Edinburgh all the way West. The green open space between Broxburn and Winchburgh is a very pleasant aspect to the canal user after passing through the urban landscape of Broxburn. EIV 9, Woodland, forestry and hedgerows; in particular section a: "there will be a presumption against development proposals which involve the loss of, or damage to, woodland, groups of trees (including [...] veteran trees or areas forming part of designated and designed landscapes)". The oaks, sycamores and ashes which grow on what is now Hiddry Castle golf course are of significantly historic origin as well as providing visual evidence to the designed landscape providing the castle setting. EIV 21, Protection of formal and informal open space; the golf course is an important amenity space in the local community, not just for its members and visiting players. The landscape is also used as recreational ground for walkers and runners and in addition the hill is used by children for sledding in the winter. The proposed plan therefore contravenes this policy section b; there will be considerable impact on the overall recreational amenity of the local area, not only due to the loss of the open space of the area itself. The golf course is important in preserving the parkland setting of Hiddry Castle. I am deeply concerned that if part of the golf course is given over to housing and the golf course moved, the remainder of the golf course will become abandoned land. Experience would suggest that there is a significant risk this will become a wasteland and dumping ground. No matter the good intentions of the planning authorities, there is evidence that landowners may encourage this in order for the land to potentially be regarded as brownfield land. The plan also contravenes section c; as there is a significant risk of loss of trees (see note regarding EIV 9 above). EIV 28, Listed Buildings; in accordance with EIV28 we note that it is important to protect not only listed buildings but the surrounding area to help preserve them and to preserve the character and history of the area. The preservation of the setting of the castle and the valuable amenity area for the community of Winchburgh which the castle and golf course together constitute could be upheld with a protection zone of 400m established around Hiddry Castle. EIV 30, Historic gardens and designed landscapes; There is a current application with Historic Scotland to classify the area as "designated landscape", but regardless of the outcome the area can clearly be shown to be of historic importance and significant to the setting of the A listed Hiddry Castle. As such it is appropriate to regard it as a conservation area and the plan should take this into account.

Appendix 1 Employment Land Allocations

I object to development of this site as it contravenes the following policies: EIV 1, Landscape character and special landscape areas; the setting of Hiddry Castle has been viewed as of special interest for hundreds of year as numerous drawings and paintings illustrate. It is also familiar to thousands of commuters from the Glasgow/Edinburgh railway line. The castle and its setting is one of the key attractions for users of the canal towpath, it is a visitor attraction in its own right, attracting local visitors and tourists each year during its public opening period. It also has a public footpath and a bridleway running through and bordering the area and it is a key destination for hundreds of walkers, cyclists and horse riders. With an increase in the population of Winchburgh it is even more important to preserve the setting of one of West Lothian's most ancient and impressive heritage sites. EIV 7, Countryside Belts and settlement setting; it is important to contain the boundaries of the two villages where they are at risk of coalescence in order to avoid the risk of creeping developments and eventual urban sprawl. There is a planned development site in Broxburn very close to the South of Winchburgh. The development of H-WB7 would bring it even closer (to within a few hundred yards). EIV 7 identified the area South of Winchburgh as green corridor. The area is also an important wildlife corridor with hen harriers, kestrels, swifts, stoats, roe deer and newts all having been sighted within a few hundred yards of Hiddry Castle. It is very important to preserve green space between Winchburgh and Broxburn East. The area between the two bings of Winchburgh and Albyn creates a natural green space between the towns of Winchburgh and Broxburn East and is an attractive agricultural landscape further enhanced by the setting of the canal. The canal is a major asset for West Lothian. It is not only an important part of our industrial heritage but offers an attractive landscape and provides an artery for recreational canal traffic from Broxburn and as far afield as Edinburgh all the way West. The green open space between Broxburn and Winchburgh is a very pleasant aspect to the canal user after passing through the urban landscape of Broxburn. EIV 9, Woodland, forestry and hedgerows; in particular section a: "there will be a presumption against development proposals which involve the loss of, or damage to, woodland, groups of trees (including [...] veteran trees or areas forming part of designated and designed landscapes)". The oaks, sycamores and ashes which grow on what is now Hiddry Castle golf course are of significantly historic origin as well as providing visual evidence to the designed landscape providing the castle setting. EIV 21, Protection of formal and informal open space; the golf course is an important amenity space in the local community, not just for its members and visiting players. The landscape is also used as recreational ground for walkers and runners and in addition the hill is used by children for sledding in the winter. The proposed plan therefore contravenes this policy section b; there will be considerable impact on the overall recreational amenity of the local area, not only due to the loss of the open space of the area itself. The golf course is important in preserving the parkland setting of Hiddry Castle. I am deeply concerned that if part of the golf course is given over to housing and the golf course moved, the remainder of the golf course will become abandoned land. Experience would suggest that there is a significant risk this will become a wasteland and dumping ground. No matter the good intentions of the planning authorities, there is evidence that landowners may encourage this in order for the land to potentially be regarded as brownfield land. The plan also contravenes section c; as there is a significant risk of loss of trees (see note regarding EIV 9 above). EIV 28, Listed Buildings; in accordance with EIV28 we note that it is important to protect not only listed buildings but the surrounding area to help preserve them and to preserve the character and history of the area. The preservation of the setting of the castle and the valuable amenity area for the community of Winchburgh which the castle and golf course together constitute could be upheld with a protection zone of 400m established around Hiddry Castle. EIV 30, Historic gardens and designed landscapes; There is a current application with Historic Scotland to classify the area as "designated landscape", but regardless of the outcome the area can clearly be shown to be of historic importance and significant to the setting of the A listed Hiddry Castle. As such it is appropriate to regard it as a conservation area and the plan should take this into account.

3. BACKGROUND (page 6, paragraphs 1.1-1.5)

Provides a brief historical context to the economic development of West Lothian which helps explain how settlements established and have developed.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

Please use the text box below for comments.

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4. CONTEXT (page 7, paragraphs 2.1-2.2)

Provides wider context for the LDP in geographic terms and explains how the LDP fits with the Strategic Development Plan (SDP1).

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

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5. ROLE AND PURPOSE OF PLAN (page 7, paragraphs 3.1-3.5)

Establishes the role and purpose of the LDP in terms of its being a material consideration in the determination of any planning applications for development in West Lothian and, when adopted by the Council, will replace the West Lothian Local Plan. It also sets out what documents the plan must comply with i.e. the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 and what documents will accompany the plan i.e. the Action Programme etc.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

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6. VISION STATEMENT AND AIMS (page 8, paragraphs 4.1-4.3)

Establishes the vision for the LDP in terms of outcomes desired over the plan period and identifies the key aims of the plan by individual subject areas i.e. Economic Development & Growth, Community Regeneration, Sustainable Housing Locations, Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery, Town Centres and Retailing, the Natural and Historic Environment, Climate Change and Renewable Energy and Waste and Minerals.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

If you wish to make comments please begin by selecting the relevant sub-section(s) of Vision Statement and Aims from the list below.

- Economic Development and Growth (page 8)
- Community Regeneration (page 8)
- Sustainable Housing Locations (page 9)
- Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery (page 9)
- Town Centres and Retailing (page 9)
- The Natural and Historic Environment (page 9)
- Climate Change and Renewable Energy (page 9)
- Waste and Minerals (page 9)

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Economic Development and Growth (page 8)	<input type="text"/>
Community Regeneration (page 8)	<input type="text"/>
Sustainable Housing Locations (page 9)	<input type="text"/>
Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery (page 9)	<input type="text"/>
Town Centres and Retailing (page 9)	<input type="text"/>
The Natural and Historic Environment (page 9)	<input type="text"/>
Climate Change and Renewable Energy (page 9)	<input type="text"/>
Waste and Minerals (page 9)	<input type="text"/>

7. THE SPATIAL STRATEGY (INCLUDING POLICY FRAMEWORK) (page 10, paragraphs 5.1-5.10)

In the context of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP), the LDP identifies West Lothian as being one of thirteen Strategic Development Areas where development will be focused in sustainable locations where infrastructure is either available or can be provided and in locations where there are no environmental constraints.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
 no

If you wish to make comments please begin by selecting the relevant sub-section(s) of the Spatial Strategy from the list below.

- Economic Development and Growth (page 12, paragraphs 5.11-5.22)
- Flexibility within traditional industrial estates (page 14, paragraphs 5.24-5.25)
- Enterprise Areas (page 17, paragraphs 5.24-5.25)
- Local business opportunities, small business start-ups and working from home (page 17, paragraph 5.26)
- Tourism (page 17, paragraphs 5.27-5.28)
- Promoting community regeneration (page 19, paragraphs 5.29-5.35)
- Housing land requirements for the LDP (page 20, paragraphs 5.36-5.49)
- Effective Housing Land and Generous Supply (page 23, paragraphs 5.50-5.53)
- New Housing Sites and Design (page 24, paragraphs 5.4-5.56)
- Strategic Allocations (including previously identified Core Development Area Allocations) (page 25, paragraphs 5.57-5.61)
- Whitburn/Charette (page 26, paragraph 5.62)
- Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge (page 26-27)
- Deans South, Livingston; Area for Comprehensive Re-development (page 27, paragraph 5.68)
- Affordable Housing (page 27, paragraphs 5.69-5.74)
- Accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People (page 29, paragraph 5.75)
- Residential Care and Supported Accommodation (page 29, paragraphs 5.76-5.77)
- Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery (page 30, paragraphs 5.78-5.84)
- Providing for Community Needs (page 32, paragraphs 5.85-5.88)
- Education (page 32, paragraphs 5.89-5.92)
- Healthcare Provision (page 33, paragraphs 5.93-5.96)
- Sports Facilities (page 33, paragraphs 5.97-5.101)
- Green Infrastructure and Green Networks (page 34, paragraphs 5.102-5.105)
- Water and Drainage (page 34, paragraphs 5.106-5.107)
- Travel in and around West Lothian (page 34, paragraphs 5.108-5.112)
- Roads (page 35, paragraph 5.113)
- A71 Corridor (page 35, paragraphs 5.114-5.115)
- A801 Corridor (page 35, paragraphs 5.116-5.117)
- A89/A8 (page 35, paragraphs 5.118-5.126)
- Rail (page 37, paragraphs 5.127-5.130)
- Walking and Cycling (page 37, paragraphs 5.131-5.132)
- Town Centres and Retailing (page 39, paragraphs 5.133-5.138)
- Landscape Character and Local Landscape Designations (page 41, paragraphs 5.139-5.143)
- Countryside Belts (page 42, paragraph 5.144)
- Development in the Countryside (page 42, paragraphs 5.145-5.147)
- Lowland Crofting (page 44, paragraphs 5.148-5.152)
- Green Networks, Local Biodiversity Sites and Geodiversity Sites (page 45, paragraphs 5.153-5.155)
- Forestry (page 46, paragraphs 5.156-5.163)
- Union Canal (p.49 paragraphs 5.164-5.165)
- Pentland Hills Regional Park (page 49, paragraphs 5.164-5.165)
- Country Parks (page 50, paragraph 5.169)
- Allotments/Community Growing (page 51, paragraphs 5.170-5.171)
- Temporary/Advance Greening (page 51, paragraphs 5.172-5.174)
- Biodiversity (page 52, paragraphs 5.175-5.180)
- Geodiversity (page 53, paragraph 5.181)
- West Lothian Open Space Strategy (page 53, paragraphs 5.182-5.184)
- Historic and Cultural Environment (page 54, paragraphs 5.185-5.187)
- Conservation Areas (page 55, paragraphs 5.185-5.188)

- Former Bangour Village Hospital, Dechmont (page 56, paragraph 5.189)
- Conservation Area at Abercorn/Hopetoun Estate (page 56, paragraph 5.190)
- Other Areas of Built Heritage and Townscape Value (page 57, paragraphs 5.191-5.199)
- Listed Buildings (page 58, paragraphs 5.185-5.187)
- Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes (page 59, paragraphs 5.200-5.201)
- Historic Battlefields (page 60, paragraph 5.202)
- Archaeology (page 60, paragraph 5.203)
- Scheduled Monuments (page 60, paragraphs 5.204-5.206)
- Public Art (page 61, paragraphs 5.207-5.208)
- Climate Change Measures (page 62, paragraphs 5.209-5.214)
- Low Carbon Development and Renewable Energy (page 63, paragraphs 5.215-5.221)
- Wind Farms and Wind Turbines (page 65, paragraphs 5.222-5.225)
- Energy and Heat Networks (page 66, paragraphs 5.226-5.229)
- Off-gas Grid Areas and Renewable Heat Requirement for New-build Housing (page 67, paragraphs 5.230-5.232)
- The Water Environment and Flood Risk Management (page 67, paragraphs 5.233-5.239)
- Air Quality and Noise (page 70, paragraphs 5.240-5.242)
- Edinburgh Airport (page 71, paragraph 5.243)
- Noise (page 71, paragraph 5.244)
- Contaminated Land (page 71, paragraphs 5.245-5.246)
- Vacant and Derelict Land (page 72, paragraphs 5.249-5.250)
- Minerals and Waste (page 73, paragraphs 5.251-5.256)
- Site Restoration (page 75, paragraphs 5.257-5.238)
- Unconventional Gas Extraction including Hydraulic Fracking (page 75, paragraph 5.259)
- Waste (page 76, paragraph 5.260)

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8. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL BY SETTLEMENT (page 79)

Provides details of development proposals which are supported by the LDP in each town and village across West Lothian and assigns each one a unique reference for ease of identification.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

If you wish to make comments please begin by selecting the relevant Settlement(s) from the list below.

- Addiewell & Loganlea (page 79)
- Armadale (page 80)
- Bathgate (page 81)
- Blackburn (page 82)
- Blackridge (page 83)
- Breich (page 83)
- Bridgehouse & Bridgecastle (page 83)
- Bridgend (page 83)
- Broxburn (page 84)
- Burnside (page 84)
- Dechmont & Bangour (page 85)
- East Calder (page 85)
- East Whitburn (page 86)
- Ecclesmachan (page 86)
- Fauldhouse (page 86)
- Greenrigg (page 86)
- Kirknewton (page 87)
- Landward area (page 87)
- Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge (page 89)
- Livingston (page 90)
- Longridge (page 93)
- Mid Calder (page 93)
- Hewton and Woodend (page 93)
- Philpstoun/East & West Philpstoun/Old Philpstoun (page 93)
- Polbeth (page 93)
- Pumpherston (page 93)
- Seafield (page 93)
- Stoneyburn/Bents (page 94)
- Threemiletown (page 94)
- Torphichen (page 94)
- Uphall (page 94)
- Uphall Station (page 94)
- West Calder & Harburn (page 95)
- Westfield (page 95)
- Whitburn (page 96)
- Wilkieston (page 97)
- Winchburgh (page 97)

Please enter site reference(s)/proposals reference (as appropriate) and location/site address below.

Site Reference/ Location / Site Address can be found in the relevant Settlement Statement

	site reference	location/ site address
Winchburgh (page 97)	H-WB 17	west of niddry castle

Please use the text box below for comments.

Your comments should be concise and limited to no more than 2,000 words. You should fully explain the issues you wish to be considered when the Proposed Plan is presented to Scottish Ministers for Examination. Please indicate whether you are seeking a change to the Proposed Plan (i.e. your representation is an objection) or if your representation supports the Proposed Plan as written.

Comment

Objection to WLC local plan by Plan item 4:3 subsection "The Natural and Historic Environment" I object to the plan on the grounds that area H-WB17 coincides with land that was originally formal parkland around Hiddry Castle and which was converted to use as a golf course in the early 1980s, thus providing excellent amenity space in the community 8 "Development proposals by settlement" - Winchburgh Site ref: H-WB17 Location/site address: Site west of Hiddry Castle I would like to register an objection to the proposal for the site North West of Hiddry Castle as a "mixed-use" development site (250 houses). Development at this site would have severely negative consequences for the setting of Hiddry Castle and the amenity land surrounding it. In addition I would like to see the area around Hiddry Castle protected as a Designed Landscape; a 400m protected zone around Hiddry Castle to protect the setting of the castle; the ancient landscaped trees on the Hiddry Castle golf course given a tree protection order and removal of site H-WB17 on the grounds of coalescence between Winchburgh and Broxburn, impact on the setting of Hiddry Castle and destruction of uniquely high quality amenity land (no replacement golf course could offer the same setting as one with Hiddry Castle at its core). Hiddry Castle is a 14th century tower house which is recognised as being of outstanding historical and architectural merit by Historic Scotland. Prior to restoration the castle was categorised as a Scheduled Ancient Monument of National Importance and is now a grade "A" Listed Building. Hiddry Castle can therefore justly lay claim to being an important part of Scotland's cultural and architectural heritage as well as being an important historical site within West Lothian. The current owners are advanced on a 20 year restoration programme for Hiddry Castle and it is open to the public on an annual basis for part of the year. Hiddry Castle was owned by the Setons from the time of the Norman Conquest. The present day castle was built in the 1360s. Hiddry Castle is virtually unchanged since that date. It is one of the oldest surviving castles in Scotland. The setting of Hiddry Castle has been viewed as of special interest for hundreds of years as numerous drawings and paintings illustrate. The preservation of the setting of the castle and the valuable amenity area for the community of Winchburgh (which the castle and golf course together constitute) should be upheld with a protection zone of 400m established around Hiddry Castle. The castle sits in an elevated position on top of a volcanic plug. Its setting was enhanced with a designed landscape which remains almost in its entirety. This designed landscape now comprises the Hiddry Castle Golf Course, which is an eminently appropriate use of this historic parkland. One of the most visible elements of this is the walled garden which was built in the 16th century and is one of the oldest (if not the oldest) walled garden in Scotland. A key feature of the historic parkland are the ancient trees some of which were most likely planted around the late 17th century when the castle was the home of the Hope family. There are two fishponds on the far East of the designed landscape which still exist and indeed the path of the Hiddry Burn was straightened to suit the designed landscape. In fact the proposed development area (H-WB17) is one of the best preserved and most scenic parts of the designed landscape. I object to development of this site as it contravenes the following policies: EIV 1, Landscape character and special landscape areas; the setting of Hiddry Castle has been viewed as of special interest for hundreds of years as numerous drawings and paintings illustrate. It is also familiar to thousands of commuters from the Glasgow/Edinburgh railway line. The castle and its setting is one of the key attractions for users of the canal towpath, it is a visitor attraction in its own right, attracting local visitors and tourists each year during its public opening period. It also has a public footpath and a bridleway running through and bordering the area and it is a key destination for hundreds of walkers, cyclists and horse riders. With an increase in the population of Winchburgh it is even more important to preserve the setting of one of West Lothian's most ancient and impressive heritage sites. EIV 7, Countryside Belts and settlement setting; it is important to contain the boundaries of the two villages where they are at risk of coalescence in order to avoid the risk of creeping developments and eventual urban sprawl. There is a planned development site in Broxburn very close to the South of Winchburgh. The development of H-WB7 would bring it even closer (to within a few hundred yards). EIV 7 identified the area South of Winchburgh as green corridor. The area is also an important wildlife corridor with hen harriers, kestrels, swifts, stoats, roe deer and newts all having been sighted within a few hundred yards of Hiddry Castle. It is very important to preserve green space between Winchburgh and Broxburn East. The area between the two bings of Winchburgh and Albyn creates a natural green space between the towns of Winchburgh and Broxburn East and is an attractive agricultural landscape further enhanced by the setting of the canal. The canal is a major asset for West Lothian. It is not only an important part of our industrial heritage but offers an attractive landscape and provides an artery for recreational canal traffic from Broxburn and as far afield as Edinburgh all the way West. The green open space between Broxburn and Winchburgh is a very pleasant aspect to the canal user after passing through the urban landscape of Broxburn. EIV 9, Woodland, forestry and hedgerows; in particular section a: "there will be a presumption against development proposals which involve the loss of, or damage to, woodland, groups of trees (including [...] veteran trees or areas forming part of designated and designed landscapes)". The oaks, sycamores and ashes which grow on what is now Hiddry Castle golf course are of significantly historic origin as well as providing visual evidence to the designed landscape providing the castle setting. EIV 21, Protection of formal and informal open space; the golf course is an important amenity space in the local community, not just for its members and visiting players. The landscape is also used as recreational ground for walkers and runners and in addition the hill is used by children for sledging in the winter. The proposed plan therefore contravenes this policy section b; there will be considerable impact on the overall recreational amenity of the local area, not only due to the loss of the open space of the area itself. The golf course is important in preserving the parkland setting of Hiddry Castle. I am deeply concerned that if part of the golf course is given over to housing and the golf course moved, the remainder of the golf course will become abandoned land. Experience would suggest that there is a significant risk this will become a wasteland and dumping ground. No matter the good intentions of the planning authorities, there is evidence that landowners may encourage this in order for the land to potentially be regarded as brownfield land. The plan also contravenes section c; as there is a significant risk of loss of trees (see note regarding EIV 9 above). EIV 28, Listed Buildings; in accordance with EIV28 we note that it is important to protect not only listed buildings but the surrounding area to help preserve them and to preserve the character and history of the area. The preservation of the setting of the castle and the valuable amenity area for the community of Winchburgh which the castle and golf course together constitute could be upheld with a protection zone of 400m established around Hiddry Castle. 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Winchburgh
(page 97)

A number of appendices are included at the end of the LDP which provides additional detail on specific elements of the Proposed Plan.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

If you wish to make comments please begin by selecting the relevant Appendix(es) of the Proposed Plan from the list below.

- Appendix 1 - Employment Land Allocations (page 99)
- Appendix 2 - Schedule of Housing Sites / Site Delivery Requirements (page 119)
- Appendix 3 - Schedule of Land Ownership (page 259)
- Appendix 4 - LDP Supplementary Guidance (SG) and Planning Guidance (PG) (page 265)
- Appendix 5 - List of Policies (page 273)
- Appendix 6 - List of Proposals (page 275)

Please use the text box below for your comments.

Your comments should be concise and limited to no more than 2,000 words. You should fully explain the issues you wish to be considered when the Proposed Plan is presented to Scottish Ministers for Examination. Please indicate whether you are seeking a change to the Proposed Plan (i.e. your representation is an objection) or if your representation supports the Proposed Plan as written.

Appendix 1 - Employment Land Allocations (page 99)	<input type="text"/>
Appendix 2 - Schedule of Housing Sites / Site Delivery Requirements (page 119)	<input type="text"/>
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Appendix 6 - List of Proposals (page 275)	<input type="text"/>

10. GLOSSARY (page 280)

An explanation of unfamiliar terms or expressions used in the LDP is provided to assist understanding of the document.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

Please use the text box below for comments.

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11. PROPOSALS MAPS

The LDP comprises a series of five maps which define settlement boundaries and illustrate land use zonings.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
- no

If you wish to make comments please begin by selecting the relevant Proposals Maps from the list below.

- Proposals Map 1 - West Lothian
- Proposals Map 2 - Linlithgow & Broxburn Area
- Proposals Map 3 - Livingston Area
- Proposals Map 4 - Bathgate Area
- Proposals Map 5 - Villages

Please use the text box below for your comments.

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Proposals Map 1 - West Lothian	<input type="text"/>
Proposals Map 2 - Linlithgow & Broxburn Area	<input type="text"/>
Proposals Map 3 - Livingston Area	<input type="text"/>
Proposals Map 4 - Bathgate Area	<input type="text"/>
Proposals Map 5 - Villages	<input type="text"/>

12. ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

Alongside the LDP is a suite of documents which are required by statute as part of the preparation and supporting evidence for the LDP.

Do you wish to make a comment?

- yes
 no

If you wish to make comments please begin by selecting the relevant Accompanying Documents from the list below.

- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.
- Equalities & Human Rights Impact Assessment (EQHRIA).
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).
- Habitats Regulations Appraisal.
- Transport Appraisal (TA).
- Action Programme.

Please use the text box below for your comments.

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Habitats Regulations Appraisal.	<input type="text"/>
Transport Appraisal (TA).	<input type="text"/>
Action Programme.	<input type="text"/>

13. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Do you wish to submit any additional comments on the LDP?

- yes
 no

Please use the text box below for your additional comments on the LDP.

Your comments should be concise and limited to no more than 2,000 words. You should fully explain the issues you wish to be considered when the Proposed Plan is presented to Scottish Ministers for Examination. Please indicate whether you are seeking a change to the Proposed Plan (i.e. your representation is an objection) or if your representation supports the Proposed Plan as written.

Objection to WLC local plan by Plan item

4:3 subsection "The Natural and Historic Environment"

I object to the plan on the grounds that area H-WB17 coincides with land that was originally formal parkland around Hiddry Castle and which was converted to use as a golf course in the early 1980s, thus providing excellent amenity space in the community

8 "Development proposals by settlement" - Winchburgh

Site ref: H-WB 17 Location/site address: Site west of Hiddry Castle

I would like to register an objection to the proposal for the site North West of Hiddry Castle as a "mixed-use" development site (250 houses). Development at this site would have severely negative consequences for the setting of Hiddry Castle and the amenity land surrounding it. In addition I would like to see the area around Hiddry Castle protected as a Designed Landscape; a 400m protected zone around Hiddry Castle to protect the setting of the castle; the ancient landscaped trees on the Hiddry Castle golf course given a tree protection order and removal of site H-WB17 on the grounds of coalescence between Winchburgh and Broxburn, impact on the setting of Hiddry Castle and destruction of uniquely high quality amenity land (no replacement golf course could offer the same setting as one with Hiddry Castle at its core). Hiddry Castle is a 14th century tower house which is recognised as being of outstanding historical and architectural merit by Historic Scotland. 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Appendix 1 Employment Land Allocations

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Before pressing the submit button please review your submission and make any changes. Once you have pressed SUBMIT you will be unable to go back to the survey.

Once we have received your submission we will send you a copy for your records. This could take up to 5 working days. If you do not receive a copy in that time please contact the Customer Service Centre.

CONFIRMATION OF YOUR PARTICIPATION

We will send you an email notification as soon as your survey is submitted.

Please enter your email address below.