From:

To:

Subject: Representation to Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021

Date:

Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing to you with my concerns for the Blackdog Community with regards to your published LDL 2021 (proposal for development at Site OP1 in Blackdog).

Whilst my wife and I have no objection to the majority of the housing development proposal to the north of Blackdog, we do have issues with the development within the area which is known as the North Wood.

I am basing my objections below on the proposal that the housing development plan shows the destruction of the North Wood and houses being built right up to the verge of the road (Hareburn Terrace) from the village right down to the entrance to the beach and car park area.

My wife and I have serious objections for the following reasons:

- 1. The North Wood has significant usage by the local community, and by visitors to the area, for nature walks, children's activities, dog walking etc.
- 2. There is already an area within the wood that is used daily, out-with the lockdown period, by the children from the local nursery as an activity and play area.
- 3. The wood is home to deer, foxes, buzzards, rabbits, stoats, owls and numerous other birdlife and animal communities that are enjoyed by all who visit the North Wood.
- 4. The trees in the wood offer both shelter and privacy, at the perimeter, to the current houses that have been there for many years. They also support the climate change movement with regards to the carbon footprint and their positive effect on removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- 5. It is currently a pleasant walk down Hareburn Terrace towards the beach or the moorland walks and sand dunes. The thought of having the back doors of a housing estate right up to the edge of the road is outrageous and will spoil the whole atmosphere of the village that the current community experiences on a daily basis when out for their regular exercise regimes.
- 6. We have been led to believe that social housing will be built towards the bottom end of the North Wood. This is inherently a flawed suggestion to site this type of housing so far from access to public transport. The walk to access the nearest Bus Stop is an uphill walk of at least 30 minutes duration.

On a separate issue, we also object to the proposal for a Travelers Site being built adjacent to the new housing estate. By placing this site so close to the planned housing, it does not afford the Travelling Community the privacy, separateness and countryside amenity that they would expect. The close proximity could potentially lead to conflict between the two communities as neither will feel that they have the seclusion they deserve.

With regards, and for your kind consideration.

Alan and Movra Neave