

Archived: 09 October 2018 14:24:53

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tue, 14 Aug 2018 10:06:52 +0100DKIM  
**To:** Katie Crerar  
**Cc:** David Berry  
**Subject:** FW: Democracy Matters - Community Ideas & Feedback - Democracy Welfare & Health  
**Sensitivity:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[S22C-818080610050.pdf](#); [S22C-818080611120.pdf](#); [S22C-818080612330.pdf](#);

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FAO: Katie Crerar

Further to your email dated 13<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018 (*The contents of which I did not find easy to follow or access*) & the following extract; Any comments on other issues and sites will not be considered at this stage.

I feel that it is important to inform you that I have been corresponding with both Gov.Scot, The Cabinet Secretary for Health & Sport & Fergus Ewing MSP reference; **Subject: RE: Democracy Matters** - Community Ideas & Feedback - Democracy Welfare & Health.

For details of the Democracy Matters Campaign & my feedback to both Gov.Scot & The Cabinet Secretary for Health & Sport please see:

- Web page <https://beta.gov.scot/policies/improving-public-services/local-governance-review/>
- Email below; **From:** [REDACTED] **Sent:** 09 August 2018 12:28 **To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] **Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] **Subject:** RE: Democracy Matters - Answering 5 questions - Your Community Your Ideas - Your Future: Consultation
- Email Below; **From:** [REDACTED] **Sent:** 12 July 2018 15:41 **To:** [REDACTED] **Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] **Subject:** RE: Democracy Matters - Your Community Your Ideas - Your Future: Consultation
- Email below; **From:** [REDACTED] **Sent:** 06 August 2018 12:44 **To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] **Subject:** RE: Democracy Matters - Community Ideas & Feedback - Democracy Welfare & Health
- Email below; **From:** [REDACTED] **Sent:** 11 July 2018 12:42 **To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] **Subject:** Democracy Matters - Your Community Your Ideas - Your Future: Consultation

I trust that the CNPA will also take these democratic issues into consideration, at a later stage of the “Cairngorms Local Development Plan 2020 – New Sites Consultation, and that:

- Note the First Attachment HM Revenue & Customs Pie Chart, and how much Income Tax & National Insurance contributions, are spent on Welfare & Health.
- That it would be “Democratically” ideal, if a proportion of this Welfare & Health expenditure, could be prioritised by Gov.Scot, Local Government, NHS Highland & the CNPA to meet the Parks individual local communities wishes – Example: Grantown-on-Spey.
- It is highly likely that the UK NHS will increase in size, & become ever-more expensive in future years, which in all probability means that HM Revenue & Customs will have to increase everyone’s Income Tax & National Insurance contributions.
- In the event that the proposed new build hospital in Aviemore does not gain planning permission, I suggest that the CNPA look at some of the old Highland Council plans, which reserved the “Adjoining Area” to the Ian Charles Hospital, for future NHS & Health Centre development.

Yours most sincerely

Kelsey Tainsh MBE  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
From: Katie Crerar [REDACTED]  
Sent: 13 August 2018 13:44  
To: Katie Crerar [REDACTED]  
Cc: David Berry [REDACTED]  
Subject: CAIRNGORMS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020 – NEW SITES CONSULTATION

**Sent on behalf of David Berry**

-  
**CAIRNGORMS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020 – NEW SITES CONSULTATION**

Thank you for your recent comments on the Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (MIR).

As you will recall, the MIR sought views on the big issues that the Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2020 needs to address and the options for tackling them. It also set out choices for the land allocations that could be made for development, and for policies that will be used to make decisions on applications for planning permission.

We received a large number of responses to the MIR consultation, including a number of new site proposals that were not included in the MIR. We have considered these proposals and have identified a small number of new site allocations that we think are appropriate to include in the new Local Development Plan.

Government guidance states that planning authorities may need to carry out further consultation on any sites they intend to include in the Proposed Plan that were not included in the MIR.

We are therefore carrying out a focussed consultation on the small number of new site proposals that we wish to include in the new Local Development Plan which were not included in the original MIR. You can view the consultation document on our website at <http://cairngorms.co.uk/park-authority/planning/local-dev-plan/local-development-plan-2020/>

The consultation will run from **13 August until 21 September 2018**.

You can send us any comments on these new sites by post or email to:

Cairngorms National Park Authority  
FREEPOST NAT 21454  
Grantown-on-Spey PH26 3BR

[planning@cairngorms.co.uk](mailto:planning@cairngorms.co.uk)

Please note that we are **not** reopening consultation on any of the other issues and sites that were covered in the MIR. We therefore ask that you only consider the limited number of new sites set out in the consultation document. Any comments on other issues and sites will not be considered at this stage.

I look forward to receiving any comments you wish to make.

Yours sincerely

**David Berry**

**DAVID BERRY**  
**Planning Manager (Forward Planning & Service Improvement)**

**Katie Crerar**  
Planning Officer (Development Planning)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

You can find our Planning Service Charter [here](#).

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 August 2018 12:28  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Democracy Matters - Answering 5 questions - Your Community Your Ideas - Your Future: Consultation

FAO: Gen Swan & Democracy matters Team (As requested please find my feedback ref the 5 questions that form the core of the "Democracy Matters" review).

Information: Tracy Hamilton Head Office for Jeane Freeman MSP OBE (Note: This feedback includes "Democratic" NHS local community issues which might be of interest to you as the Cabinet Secretary for Health & Sport).

#### **Q 1. Involvement in fighting for 6 years against the proposed closure by NHS Highland ref the Ian Charles Hospital in Grantown-on-Spey**

- Challenging NHS highland over the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital, proved to be a very frustrating & unfair exercise, & one which was above the intellectual & practical ability of the majority of the local community, who do not have the time and/or incentive to fight justified battles, for other members of their local community.
- I am aware that other local communities in the Highlands & Islands, have had similar experience's. Examples; Caithness Baby Unit, St Vincent's Hospital at Kingussie, Inverness Raigmore Hospital Children's, Heart & Operating units.
- People rarely get involved in any public and/or private sector controversial issues, unless there issues have an adverse impact upon their personal and/or extended families lives.
- The younger generations also fail to realise/appreciate that the best "present" that they can give to their "ageing" parents, extended families & friends, is to secure adequate provision for their long term; welfare, health, palliative care & provision for those suffering from dementia.
- There is a growing tendency that; "24/7/TV/Reality TV/news/press & press preview/what the papers say/media/celebrity" type discussion programs (Sarah-Jane Mee & panel), together with the "Opinions" (not factual news) expressed on programmes like the Pledge, & USA TV programs, are often recycled by "Syndicated Pundits, Former Politicians & Armed Forces personnel, who embellish "Fake False, Trivial & Controversial News", whilst not pay focussed, accurate & due attention to; global, USA, EU & UK democratic issues. In fact, all too often they completely distort, complicate & trivialise, extremely important democratic issues.
- The public establishment does not like to provide and/or make use of "Definitions" (Example: Definitions associated with many legal & planning issues/subjects/words etc) - For fear that "Politicians, the Judiciary & Legal Professions" will use a published or dictionary "Definition", to "Democratically fight "for or against" public & private sector agencies, & the democratic decision making process, to realise and/or circumvent, the Rights & Freedoms" of their clients & opponents.
- Whilst the Human Rights Act 1998 gives further effect to the "Rights & Freedoms" guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) which came into being in 1953, and to which the UK was a signatory, may be acceptable/convenient for members of the legal profession, when representing a variety of illegal immigration & terrorism cases. Its implementation, all too frequently, is not working in the democracy interests of many local communities & working class people.
- The ECHR at both national & local government, has failed miserably, to enable working class people, to challenge the actions of Public Authorities, which they consider have failed to match/meet, the "Democratic & legal" standards, set by the convention.
- The ongoing Brexit negotiations & "Deal, No Deal, Better than Bad Deal, Next, Spexit, Deutschexit, Itexit, Auscit etc" decisions, are highly likely, to have major ECHR & "Democratic" implications, ref the future "Rights & Freedoms" of working class people, all of which need to be closely reviewed & monitored, by Gov.UK & Gov.Scot.
- Note the following extracts from The Human Rights Act 1998 <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.dca.gov.uk/peoples-rights/human-rights/pdf/act-studyguide.pdf> - Raises the following question:

Is the Convention Checklist & Democratic requirements, plus spirit of; Legality, Necessity & Proportionality, being democratically and adequately addressed at local community level?

Democracy 1.9 The Human Rights Act ensures that these important ideas, and the supporting judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, are fully available to our courts. It also ensures that Parliament has to reflect carefully, in considering proposed legislation, on the difficult question of where the balance lies between the individual's rights and the needs of the wider community.

Democracy 1.10 The Human Rights Act requires our courts to respect laws passed by Parliament. However, it allows a **higher court** to declare that a law cannot be given a meaning compatible with the Convention rights (*see* Part 2). Parliament can then decide whether and how to amend the law. In this way, the Act balances the rights and responsibilities of the lawmaking and judicial parts of our Constitution, leaving the final word to the democratic process.

Public confidence 1.13 One of the main aims of the Human Rights Act is that, over time, a shared understanding of what is fundamentally right and wrong will lead to people having more confidence in key state bodies and that this will encourage more openness and participation in our democracy. Shared, basic values in the Human Rights Act will help to promote a greater unity and fairness in our society. The Act has been very widely publicised and we expect that most people in the country now know something about it, even if some of that information comes from mischievous sources which portray the Act in an undeservedly bad light. We are working to ensure that public confidence in state bodies will grow and that human rights will be recognised as the benchmark of all that they do.

Para 1.14 The Human Rights Act means that:

Convention rights and responsibilities form a common set of binding values for public authorities right across the UK

Public authorities must have human rights principles in mind when they make decisions about people's rights

Human rights must be part of all policy making.

- Some NHS Highland meetings & press releases ref the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital in Grantown-on-Spey, have bordered on being "Fake & False News".
- In one case, an NHS Highland meeting, was only advertised in the local press 2 days prior to the meeting, which for the local community, was inconveniently held on an important & key event for local businesses & the local economy; "Harley Davidson Thunder in the Glen" day, involving some 5,000+ motorbikes, many vacationers.
- NHS Highland frequently appear to be "In Total Denial" of the "Democratic Rights & Freedoms", & NHS problems, encountered by many Highlands & Islands local communities.
- It is the opinion of my colleagues & I, that NHS Highland has been guilty of using dubious statistics (Example: In press Articles & circulars & leaflets), to facilitate & realise their aspirations for the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital.
- Example; If I recall correctly (I no longer hold these statistics – but if required could probably access them), NHS Highland advised that approximately 80% of those who returned an NHS Highland questionnaire, had endorsed the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital. However, NHS Highland did not highlight that this statistic, was based on approximately 100+ returned questionnaires, from a Badenoch & Strathspey community, involving some 13,500 persons. That is hardly an; accurate, true, honest or sincere, statistical reflection, of the local communities wishes.
- Many democratically elected Highland Councillor's, quite simply do not have the "Where-with-all and/or political will", to adequately uphold the "Democratic Rights & Freedoms" of remote local communities.
- The Cairngorm National Park Authority Board claims to be "Democratically Elected" – However, a proportion of the CNPA Board Members are appointed – Which is hardly democratic, & all too often results in un-democratic, adverse & unacceptable planning decisions (CNPA is responsible for all planning matters in the Park) for members of the Park local communities, and considered to be a bone of contention, by some Park MSP's.
- Traditionally most people "respect" Doctors & other members of the medical profession – Who are in a position to exert considerable undue influence, over honest working class members of the community.
- In addition, other Doctors rarely criticise their colleagues – So fighting against the NHS Highland medical establishment, has proved to be extremely difficult challenge for members of local communities – Especially when NHS Highland budgets, have been overspent & are under ever increasing pressure.
- There is also a lack of clarity, as to exactly why many NHS budgets are overspent, or as to the penalties imposed.
- Many in local communities justifiably believe that over many years, NHS financial miss-management has been a "Key" factor in the poor "Democratic" provision of adequate Welfare & Health care. A situation which has subsequently been endorsed by the Auditor General & Territorial Boards.
- The high salaries earned by many Doctors, and especially in families involving both "adults/spouses/partners" working for the NHS medical (2 x £100K+ = £200K+), is way beyond working class expectations & aspirations, & in many cases, is highly likely, and/or "unintentionally", to have an un-democratic impact, upon the "Democratic" decision making process.
- It is my colleagues & my own perception, that all too often, it is the NHS Highland's preference, to encompass "Friendly Forces" onto their committees, who they were/are reasonably confident, will follow the "Party Line".
- Whilst I appreciate that; Global/EU/UK/devolved politics + referendums, & the UK wide NHS & post 2008 UK financial crises, was likely to have a considerable adverse impact on many decision making processes. It was obvious to some Gov.Scot opposition MSP's & eminent medical professionals, plus my colleagues & I, that this was far from being an ideal/appropriate time frame, for agencies like NHS Highland, to carry out a "Strategic Reviews of NHS Highland assets".
- Some NHS Highland cost cutting exercise's, which were undertaken to try & balance budgets, & which included the proposed closure of some important/historical NHS local community assets, have proved to be unwelcome & flawed exercises.
- Furthermore, NHS Highland & The Highland Council, have implemented a cost cutting policy (Some of the basic details have been officially outlined in print), whereby they are both committed to the closure of; assets, reduced maintenance, cut back of services, manpower, wages, pensions & training.

## **Q 2. Local community or community of interest to have more control over some decisions**

- I am a big fan of the German & Netherlands concept of, local Burgermeister's, to cater for local public administration requirements, and their ability to re-energize local government, by reconnecting it with communities, and implementing a "One size does not fit all" philosophy.
- Greater "On-site" public financed expertise is required to manage all local community & NHS assets, employees & local NHS "Welfare & Health" requirements (Note: Welfare & Health accounts for approximately 45% of all Income Tax & National Insurance contributions & expenditure).
- HM Revenue & Customs Annual Tax Summaries Pie Charts, which show how each individual's Income Tax & National Insurance contributions like Welfare & Health were spent. For "democratic" transparency, also need to identify in these pie charts, the amount spent on individual local communities "Welfare & Health".
- There is also an extremely urgent requirement, to create a more democratic EU, Non-EU & Commonwealth "Modern Citizenship Law", that will meet tomorrow's "Local Community or Community of Interest" post Brexit requirements.
- Tomorrow's citizenship legislation also needs to cater for a variety of diverse (With adequate provision to encompass the Scottish diaspora); Global, EU, UK & Scottish Citizenship (Dual & Triple Passports rights & freedoms etc).
- Predictably, failure to address this citizenship issue at the earliest opportunity, will result in an ongoing crisis for many individuals, & one of potentially immense & complex proportions, which the Gov.UK & the Home Office, has proved to be "Not Fit for Purpose" to address. Examples include; Illegal immigrants who have thrown away their passports, Descendants of British colonials, Children (& their descendants, spouses, adopted children, extended family members) illegally transported in 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to the colonies (Presently under a Judicial Review), The Windrush generation, Iraq & Afghanistan interpreters, members of the UK Armed Forces from Fiji (Who despite having served multi-tours of duty in NI, Iraq & Afghanistan, were not eligible to claim UK citizenship because of a minor driving offence).
- Post Brexit, I suggest that the Canadian "Permanent Resident Status", Sponsorship & PR Card" system, which involves fingerprints & photo biometrics, may be a suitable "Democratic" way ahead, to resolve some of "Scotland's citizenship, economic, social & family requirements (The "One size does not fit all" of Scotland's "Democratically" devolved "Skill, manpower & local communities welfare & extended family requirements), plus GB & NI, & other EU & Non-EU, citizenship requirements.

Why should Scotland (which needs foreign workers) & its economy suffer, just because England has an illegal immigrant problem?

Canadian "Permanent Residence Status" ID Cards do not cause a problem between Canada & the USA, which has the longest unmanned & unpoliced global border in the world.

A devolved Scottish "Permanent Resident Status" PR Card system, providing Scottish domicile rights only, could quite easily resolve on ongoing population problem.

For more information, see:

Government of Canada "Understanding permanent resident status" <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/new-immigrants/pr-card/understand-pr-status.html>

The Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's website. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/family-sponsorship/spouse-partner-children.html>

- Note: I have a German spouse, but only 2 of my 4 sons are eligible to claim dual UK & German citizenship. In some cases, whilst a German male can pass on German nationality by descent, some German women (including those married to a non-German), are not entitled to pass on German nationality by descent to their children. This is not "Democratically" acceptable in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, or compatible with the "spirit or legal" requirements of the ECHR, Human Rights & Equal Opportunities legislation.

## **Q 3. What does 'Local' mean to you and your community**

- The Grantown-on-Spey & Vicinity Community Council (GonS&VCC) normally meets once a month (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday - evening meeting), but stands down during the schools summer holidays. Which means that:

It has a limited capacity time wise, to deal with many "important & democratic" decision-making requirements.

The "Minutes of Meetings" have to be read at the following meeting, prior to being published, which in a fast moving digital & cyber world, delays

the decision-making process.

Some Community Councils also have difficulty meeting the necessary “Forum” requirements to carry out their meetings, which is not “Democratically” acceptable.

#### **Q 4. New forms of local decision-making that could work well**

- National & local decision-making, where appropriate, could benefit from a “Mandatory” form of community service, by suitably qualified & experienced persons, or by private sector agencies or companies, similar to that of “Jury Service”, providing such a policy also encompassed a proportional entitlement, to cater for the payment of allowances, and any “net loss of earnings”.
- Brexit negotiations have highlighted the complexity involved in leaving the EU – I suggest that for “Democratic” reasons, that it is absolutely essential that any future referendum’s on the break-up of the UK, provides detailed advice on exactly what is involved. For I understand that Scotland is “legally bound, entitled & responsible for” 14% of the UK & it’s; Dependant Territories, National Security, International Agreements & Obligations, Assets, Wealth, **Debt**, Infrastructure, Services, & Material & Artistic possessions (buildings, property, art, statues, documents).

#### **Q 5. Other comments, ideas or questions**

- I suggest that the vast majority of working class people throughout the Highlands & Islands do not understand the wider implications associated with global, UK, Commonwealth, local community, Christian, other faiths & non-believers democracy, or how to help preserve the delicate balance between economic responsibility & democratic principles.
- Commonwealth leaders have voted for Prince Charles to succeed the Queen as Head of the Commonwealth:

Now is the ideal time to review “Democracy” throughout the Commonwealth.

Address Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) “Democratic” issues.

An innovative program, designed to create new “Democratic Universities” (Comparable with Oxford), in key Commonwealth countries (Prioritise Nigeria, Kenya, Malawi), can only serve to enhance Commonwealth:

Citizens “Democracy”.

Peace, Security & Democracy.

The fight against terrorism.

Trade & Economy.

Education (At all levels of Government & society, & it would be of considerable benefit to all in the public & private sectors, of the Commonwealth countries concerned.

Progress for Women & Girls (Note: Many universities in Africa have Nil/inadequate female toilet facilities – A situation that should be totally unacceptable for all Commonwealth countries & a priority for The Department for International Development (DFID) to address at the earliest opportunity.

Welfare & Health.

Immigration & Emigration problems & issues.

Note:

The population of Africa is predicted to double by 2030 & predicted to increase further by 2050.

This will fuel illegal border crossings & immigration across the Mediterranean Sea into the EU & UK.

- Gov.Scot needs to be enfranchised to be able to exert more “Democratic” influence in Westminster.
- All MP’s who are “Democratically” elected to serve in Westminster, but who do not take their seats in the House of Commons, should be subject to a mandatory deselection process, because non-attendance & lack of voting, has an adverse impact on UK “Democracy” (Example; Northern Ireland).

- All public employees, without exception, should be on “Short Term” contracts, whereby any subsequent extensions of their employment contracts, should be subject to, performance related appraisals. For it is “Democratically” unacceptable that those in public appointments, who are not subject to compulsory or age related retirement, can “Block” the advancement of their colleagues.
- If we are to meet the ever increasing speed & advances of tomorrow’s; National Security, International Agreements & Obligations, Quantum Computers, Space, technology, AI, robotics, digital, cyber, communications & tel/mobile/cell requirements. It is absolutely essential, that all public contracts, make adequate provision in individual employment contracts, to cater for:

The mandatory further “UK or internationally externally based” training requirements of employees (especially of those in highly paid executive & management positions).

Who’s skill sets require updating.

With additional provision to terminate the employment of those who fail to adapt to, and/or meet tomorrow’s (Social Quantum Cyber) employment requirements.

- Bear in mind that the EU & Canadian trade agreement has taken 7+ years to negotiate (I understand without any financial details & accountability), & that future advances in technology & quantum computers, will be able to produce “un-thought of decisions”, within a matter of hours.
- I am advised that even if Scotland linked all of today’s computers in the EU together (This issue needs to be researched by Gov.Scot), they would not be able to solve tomorrow’s questions, in our lifetimes. Also note the following extract from “Quantum computing explained with a deck of cards” by Dario Gil ( <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yy6TV9Dntlw> ) ref “SHOR’S ALGORITHM” in:

Factor a number into primes:  $M = p * q$

Classical:  $t \sim \exp(O(n^{1/3} \log^{2/3} n))$  28,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 years (Time taken by a classic computer to resolve a question).

Quantum:  $t \sim O(n^3)$  100 seconds (Time taken by a Quantum computer to solve the same question).

- The following extract’s from The Sunday Times dated 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018, titled;

“A degree of doubt over university education” - Meanwhile, even in a strong jobs market there is not enough graduate-level employment to go round.

&

“Testing times for education reform” - The government has recognised that there is a serious problem with our schools.

Democratic requirements & implications:

Gov.Scot is aware that Scottish ethnic minorities have difficulty in getting into Oxford & Cambridge universities, and that the Sunday Times magazine article titled “How it feels to be black in the corporate world” outlined that a black child in the Shetland Islands, named Marcus Whyte, learnt harsh lessons about rejection & isolation, and was told by his mother that as a black person; “You will have to be twice as good at whatever you do, and work twice as hard”.

**It is absolutely essential that “Democracy Matters” reviews University & School education.**

Makes adequate provision to include tomorrow’s “Quantum & Cyber” technology, in all education programs, and in a variety of formats, that caters for all ability levels of pupil’s (be they academically and/or non-academically literate), in Primary, Secondary, Further & University education.

Provision needs to be made in school’s curriculum’s, for non-academically gifted children:

To take greater responsibility for themselves.

How to become self-employed.

Manage their finances & Tax returns.

To learn to drive a full range of; commercial, private, farming, construction, cherry picker & fork lift type vehicles.

- If we are to ensure that there is not a global “Democratic Recession”, that also adversely impacts upon Scotland & the UK. There is a growing

requirement, for the UK & Scotland's voting systems, to take a global lead, & make best use of, tomorrow's "Quantum, Cyber & Space" technology & industry.

- The "Democratic" eligibility rights & freedoms, of all Scottish citizens, Crown Servants, first generation descendants, dependants & extended family members, be they domiciled in the UK and/or overseas, and/or those & the families of members in the UK Armed Forces, or working at sea or offshore, needs to be standardised:

Voting rights for all Scottish Elections & Referendums.

University Tuition Fees in Scotland.

- Scotland has been chosen as the site for the UK's first Spaceport & the Scottish space industry is big & and growing & has "Democratic Political, Economic & Social" implications:  
Space will increasingly involve tomorrow's "Quantum & Cyber" technology.

While Scotland makes up less than 9% of the UK population it accounts for 18% of jobs in the UK space industry.

More than 100 private and public organisations have created almost 7,000 jobs and are contributing more than £130m to the Scottish economy

In the last two years Glasgow has built more satellites than any other city in Europe.

- There is also a "Democratic" requirement in the UK, where appropriate, to be able to terminate the employment & contracts of all; MP's, MSP's, Councillors, University Lecturers, Teachers & other public servants.
- A new form of local "Community Police Force", staffed & financed proportionately, by the public & private sector & the implementation of fines, could be of benefit to all local & city communities, to enforce "Democratic" social responsibility & issues like; dog fouling, environmental contamination, litter etc (Parents of children who are fined ref the distribution of litter & plastic, would soon chastise & take increased responsibility for their children).
- Community gain issues, need to be reviewed, in the interests of meeting & prioritising local communities; NHS "Welfare & Health" expectations, and/or other priorities.
- UK Blue Light & NHS Emergency Services [Example, Mountain Rescue (RAF MR Teams) & (Air Ambulance & Medevac)] is "Democratically" financed through HM Revenue & Customs & National Insurance contributions & via voluntary & charitable organisations. Globally, & in most EU countries & North America, UK personnel are compelled to take out adequate insurance cover to cater for similar Emergency/Medical Services & Air Medevac costs. It is time that Non-UK citizens, had to finance their own "Personal & Insurance" costs, to cater for any "Democratically & HMRC financed Blue Light Emergency & NHS Services or Air Medevac costs.
- Standardise Driving & Provisional Driving Licence criteria:

Are you aware that people with a Provisional Drivers Licence on the Isle of Unst in the Shetland Islands, are not required to be accompanied by someone with a Full Drivers Licence?

Yours most sincerely

Kelsey Tainsh MBE

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 August 2018 12:44

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Democracy Matters - Community Ideas & Feedback - Democracy Welfare & Health

FAO:

**Jen Swan** | Local Governance Review & Community Empowerment | Scottish Government | [REDACTED]

**Tracy Hamilton** for Jeane Freeman MSP

Jen: Many thanks for your feedback & invitation to submit further thoughts.

I envisage that as it is highly likely that the UK NHS will increase in size, & become ever-more expensive in future years, which in all probability means that HM Revenue & Customs will have to increase everyone's Income Tax & National Insurance contributions.

In the interests of "Democracy", it would be wise to give local Community Councils & Members of local Communities, a greater say in the decision-making processes, as to how a "Proportionate" amount of their "Income Tax & National Insurance" is to be spent on Welfare & Health.

For example, please note the First Attachment pie chart, which highlights that a large proportion of my "Income Tax & National Insurance" contributions, was spent on public spending for "Welfare & Health" in FY 2016-17.

Please also note that the SNP Manifesto for 2016 (See Second Attachment Pages 33 & 34), highlights the benefits of an "Empowered Scotland", and that under:

- Local Governance - "One size does not fit all".
- Participation - The "Community Empowerment Act" delivered new rights for communities, by; "Providing community councils with a strong democratic mandate to deliver some services".

Throughout Scotland & especially in the more remote areas of the Highlands & Islands, a "One Size does not fit all" philosophy, has definitely not have been implemented by NHS Highland', to try and meet the NHS needs & aspirations, of many local Highland & Island communities.

I suggest that if local & individual communities such as Badenoch & Strathspey, had been given a proper democratic "Local Government Vote", and an appropriate democratic & transparent voice "in accordance with the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973", and an opportunity to "Priorities" an element of Scotland's "Welfare & Health" public spending, on local NHS assets, such as the Ian Charles Hospital in Grantown-on-Spey (Sadly NHS Highland has proposed closing this much cherished local community cottage hospital – A decision which urgently needs to be totally reviewed by the Scottish Parliament & the new Cabinet Secretary for Health & Sport). Then local communities might consider that their "Income Tax & National Insurance" contributions, were being well spent, and that many members of local communities would seriously consider making charitable donations, in support of local "Welfare & Health" requirements.

However, as the Brexit process unfolds, it is highlighting the lack of "Devolved Local & National Democracy", which is fundamental to our quality of life, and the rights & welfare of all governed local communities

The Sunday Times article titled "When Brexit is done, Union must adapt to stay alive" dated 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018 (See Third Attachment), ref the House of Commons "Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee" report, indicates that; "Whitehall still operates extensively on the basis of a structure and culture which takes little account of the realities of devolution in the UK".

I suggest that the Scottish parliament will have to work twice as hard, if it is to improve "Scottish Welfare & Health", and/or to realise greater "National & Local Democracy" throughout Scotland.

Yours most sincerely

Mr Kelsey John Tainsh MBE

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 12 July 2018 15:41  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Democracy Matters - Your Community Your Ideas - Your Future: Consultation

Good afternoon Ms Tainsh,

Thank you for getting in touch.

It is clear that you have put a lot of thought and personal experience into your response, which is exactly what we were hoping for.

I will pass your comments onto our research & analysis colleague to review.

If you have any further thoughts or ideas that you would like to share with us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

You might consider answering the 5 questions that form the core of the review, these can be found here: <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/democracy-matters-community-ideas-future/>

We also have an online platform available, that we are using to encourage people to share their ideas and spark debate: <https://www.ideas.gov.scot/local-governance-review>

Many thanks,

Jen Swan | Local Governance Review & Community Empowerment | Scottish Government | [REDACTED]

Democracy matters smallest

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 July 2018 12:42  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Democracy Matters - Your Community Your Ideas - Your Future: Consultation

FAO:

Democracy Matters Team at Scottish Government  
Tracy Hamilton Head Office for Jeane Freeman MSP

Information:

Hard Copy for:

Leonard Grassick  
Bill Sadler (Temp Chair Grantown-on-Spey Community Council)  
Beatrice Oliphant (Member Grantown-on-Spey Community Council)

After fighting (with my colleague Leonard Grassick) against the closure of the Ian Charles Hospital in Grantown-on-Spey since 2012, which was originally gifted to the local community in 1884, I sadly have come to the conclusion that local "Democracy" is all but an illusion.

Note:

- In the opinion of many members of the Grantown-on-Spey community, the actions of the NHS Highland Chief Executive & Board (NHS Highland once again in £19 million debt), and of some Highland Councillors & Community Councillors, reference the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital, can hardly be classified as being "Democratic".
- In addition, there are elements of national "Democracy" in Scotland, which some Scottish Government Ministers vigorously claim, have constitutionally been extensively eroded by Westminster, due to Westminster's interpretation and implementation of, the Devolution Scotland Act 1998, and which even the present Scottish Government, with its unlimited access to outer office & legal resources, has and continues to encounter formidable "ongoing problems" to address and combat.
- Example; Brexit and the Scottish devolved powers, which Westminster has all too "easily" circumvented, by the UK & Conservative Government's interpretation and definition of the word "**Normally**".
- Just like the Scottish Government during its Brexit negotiations, which has found Westminster "Democracy" wanting, and hardly a "fair and transparent" challenge. I can assure you that many members of local communities & Community Councils, equally find their day to day "Democracy" aspirations and challenges, virtually impossible to realise, to their own and the local communities advantage.
- Local Government, and the need "Democratic" requirement for public agencies to ensure that they tick all of the relevant "Public Agency" boxes, which is exactly what I believe NHS Highland did to strengthen their case ref the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital in Grantown-on-Spey, in most instances, is virtually guaranteed, as a means of ensuring priority over, and to overcome, the wishes of, local communities, Community Councils, and local "Democracy".
- The oversight and planning decisions of the Cairngorms Scottish National Park Authority, and its "Democratic" interpretation of the National Park (Scotland) Act 2000 four National Park Aims, **highlights that "Where these aims conflict, the relevant National Park authority must prioritise the first of**

these aims. The four aims are:

To conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area;

To promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area;

To promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public;

To promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

- Whilst the CNPA did advise NHS Highland in writing of this statutory requirement – **NHS Highland has still recommended the proposed closure of the Ian Charles Hospital**, which indicates that NHS Highland can hardly be classed as a local Community “Democratic” institution.

- Note the following extract's from the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 Section 9: General purpose and functions of National Park authorities <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2000/10/notes/division/1/9>

36. *Subsection (1)* sets out the general purpose of a National Park authority. That purpose is to ensure that the aims set out in section 1 are achieved in a way which is mutually supportive, rather than looking at each of the aims separately and in isolation.

37. *Subsection (2)* summarises the various powers of a National Park authority and where these are set out. In particular, general powers are in *schedule 2* and specific functions in *schedule 3*. Planning functions may be conferred by virtue of section 10. There may be additional functions conferred in the relevant designation order.

38. *Subsection (3)* sets out a general enabling power so that a National Park authority may do anything incidental to its main functions which it considers will help to accomplish its general purpose set out in subsection (1) or carry out its functions.

39. *Subsections (4) and (5)* make clear that this power does not allow any activity which is specifically restricted by the Act, nor does it include a separate power to raise money (without excluding an activity simply because it has financial consequences or involves acquiring or disposing of property).

**40. *Subsection (6)*** sets out the guiding principle for a National Park authority in exercising its functions: to act with a view to accomplishing its general purpose set out at section 9(1) – in other words, to ensure that the aims set out in section 1 are collectively achieved in relation to the National Park in a co-ordinated way. However, recognising that there will be occasions when even having taken a co-ordinated approach there remains conflict between the aim at section **1(a) and the others, greater weight must be given to (a), the conservation of natural and cultural heritage**. This acknowledges that the high quality of the natural and cultural heritage is one of the main reasons for designating an area as a National Park.

- Note the following extract from GOV.UK; Devolution of powers to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/devolution-of-powers-to-scotland-wales-and-northern-ireland> **Overview** Devolution is a process of decentralisation, and puts power closer to the citizen so that local factors are better recognised in decision-making.
- Was the inclusion of the word “**Normally**” in the small print of the statutory devolved powers Act & documentation “missed and/or overlooked” by The Scottish Parliament & Legal profession?
- Local & Community “Democracy” has become far too complex a subject today for many local & working class citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland, many of whom also lack the; financial, intellectual and legal resources, and who have far too busy with their; working, business and family lives.
- Is the present “Democratic” provision for those suffering with dementia adequate?
- The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2015/6/contents/enacted> is good legislation. However, I suggest that the “Democracy Matters Team of the Scottish Government” investigate exactly how many Local Government Councils rating authorities have implemented any “Reduce or Remit” of Non Domestic Business Rates, in accordance with the Act's:

**PART 11 NON-DOMESTIC RATES** 140 Schemes for reduction and remission of non-domestic rates

1. After section 3 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions etc.) (Scotland) Act 1962, insert—

“3A Schemes for reduction and remission of rates

(1) This section applies in relation to rates leviable for the year 2015-16 and any subsequent year.

(2) **A rating authority may, in accordance with a scheme made by it for the purposes of this section, reduce or remit any rate leviable by it in respect of lands and heritages.**

- I passionately believe in “Democracy” and trust that with tomorrow’s rapidly evolving advances in; Technology, AI, Cyber, Space & Digitalization, that the Scottish Government will be able to deliver “Democracy”.
- It is absolutely essential that “Tomorrow’s Democracy” also keep’s pace with, and is an integral part of, tomorrow’s international; “Cell Mobile telephones” and other digital and communications media.

- Tomorrow's "Democracy" will also have to meet all; UK National Security requirements, International Agreements and Obligations.

Yours most sincerely

Kelsey Tainsh MBE

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

**Kevin  
Pringle**

## When Brexit is done, Union must adapt to stay alive



**L**ast week saw the publication of an unusual and refreshing report at Westminster. Unusual in that it raised a question mark over the existence of some government departments, and refreshing because the MPs responsible for it left partisan politics at the door.

The rather dull-sounding public administration and constitutional affairs committee of the House of Commons came up with quite a racy report, if you're into that sort of thing.

Inquiring into the future of devolution after Britain leaves the EU, the committee's five Conservative MPs (who hold the chair), four Labour members, an MP suspended from Labour and one SNP representative came together to agree the controversial document unanimously.

It may be about dry systems of governance, but, as the Brexit process is bringing home to us, how the country is run and sovereignty is exercised is fundamental to the policies that impact on our quality of life. Governance isn't about those who govern us; it's about jobs and the economy, health, education, trade, the environment and food safety – that is, the rights and welfare of the governed.

Sensibly, the report recognises that while the Westminster parliament retains "ultimate supremacy", we now arguably have "qualified sovereignty" in the UK, because of the establishment of devolved government in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Unfortunately, having legislated for a Scottish parliament 20 years ago, it's almost as though the politicians and mandarins responsible forgot all about it, preferring to dwell in the ancien

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## Earlier consultation could have possibly avoided much of the acrimony

régime of the crown in parliament's undiluted sovereignty. To quote the report: "Whitehall still operates extensively on the basis of a structure and culture which take little account of the realities of devolution in the UK."

Brexit is just the latest illustration of the point. As the committee observes: "It is highly regrettable that there was little consultation with devolved governments in advance of the publication of the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, as earlier consultation could have possibly avoided much of the acrimony that was created between the UK government and the devolved governments."

All of which brings us to the role of the secretary of state for Scotland. In 1989, the Scottish secretary at the time Malcolm Rifkind was mocked for being quoted in *Scottish Field* magazine comparing his powers to those of a "colonial governor". Rifkind denied he said it then, but you certainly couldn't make the claim now.

A recommendation of the committee's MPs is that the UK government should review the country's entire "constitutional architecture" post-Brexit, and consider "whether the role of the territorial offices in Whitehall and corresponding secretaries of state are still necessary".

The Scotland Office doesn't even exist in name any more, having rebranded itself as the "UK government in Scotland", which somewhat undermines the core purpose claimed since 1885 of representing Scottish interests in London.

It would be better to prioritise the functional rather than territorial relationships between the Scottish and UK governments, with departments dealing with finance, the economy, environment and agriculture, developing direct dialogue between London and Edinburgh, and indeed Cardiff and Belfast.

Suggesting that it's time to lower the flag on the office of secretary of state for Scotland means no disrespect to the current incumbent, David Mundell, or his predecessors.

It's a case of the Union needing to adapt, or die.

@KevinJPringle

# How your tax was spent in 2016-17

The information on this page shows you how your Income Tax and National Insurance contributions were spent in 2016-17. This does not include indirect taxes such as VAT and other duties.

For more information about your tax and public spending, go to [www.gov.uk/annual-tax-summary](http://www.gov.uk/annual-tax-summary)

## How your tax contributed to public spending

	Your contribution
Welfare	£1324
Health	£1106
State Pensions	£703
Education	£670
National debt interest	£300
Defence	£283
Public order and safety	£229
Transport	£229
Business and industry	£136
Government administration	£114
Culture eg sports, libraries, museums	£87
Environment	£87
Housing and utilities eg street lights	£82
Overseas aid	£60
UK contribution to the EU budget	£38
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5449</b>



These figures show how government spent money across the whole of the UK, including spending by the devolved administrations.

All figures are rounded to the nearest pound.

The figures in the table above are intended as a guide to how taxes are spent and not as a direct link between your Income Tax, National Insurance contributions and any specific expenditure.

If you would like to opt out of receiving future tax summaries please register at [www.gov.uk/annual-tax-summary](http://www.gov.uk/annual-tax-summary)

Spending information is published by HM Treasury.

For more information about Scottish Government spending, go to [www.gov.scot/BudgetBill2016-17](http://www.gov.scot/BudgetBill2016-17) or Scottish Government accounts, go to [www.gov.scot/accounts](http://www.gov.scot/accounts)

And for information about Scottish Rate of Income Tax, go to [www.gov.uk/scottish-rate-income-tax/how-it-works](http://www.gov.uk/scottish-rate-income-tax/how-it-works)

# RE-ELECT



**SNP** Manifesto 2016

## AN EMPOWERED SCOTLAND

**We believe the best people to decide the future of our communities are the people who live in those communities.**

**Over the last nine years we have taken forward radical measures in land reform and community land purchase.**

### Local Governance

We want to re-invigorate local government by reconnecting it with communities. One size does not fit all. The approach taken in Glasgow does not have to be the same as the approach in Galashiels. The principle of local control, not on behalf of a community, but by a community is key.

We will review the roles and responsibilities of local authorities and the relationships between local authorities and health boards. We aim to transform our democratic landscape, protect and renew public services and refresh the relationship between citizens, communities and councils. We will:-

- Consult on and introduce a Bill that will decentralise local authority functions, budgets and democratic oversight to local communities
- Review and reform the role of Community Planning Partnerships so they are better placed to drive reform, including through use of citizens' panels and town hall meetings
- Continue to grow and develop City Deals, Town Centre Partnerships and Regional Economic Partnerships so that clusters of agencies and shared interests can work together for the benefit of their local economies and communities

Following the report of the independent review of local government ward boundaries we will protect local communities by taking forward changes only where communities have been adequately respected in the new proposed arrangements.

### Islands

We have placed the needs and aspirations of our island communities at the very centre of the Government's agenda. The establishment of a dedicated Ministerial post demonstrated our commitment to our island communities. This post will continue in the next government.

We will consult on, and bring forward, an Islands Bill to reflect the unique needs of these communities and implement our ten-point manifesto for our islands.

We will protect the Road Equivalent Tariff to all routes in the Clyde and Hebrides Ferry services network and take action to reduce fares on ferry services to Orkney and Shetland. We will also maintain the existing air discount scheme at 50 per cent.

We will establish a new Islands Strategic Group chaired by the Islands Minister to build on the work of the Islands Areas Working Group and develop a new National Islands Plan.

Island communities will be able to control and determine how to invest 100 per cent of locally raised Crown Estate revenues once these are devolved.

### Participation

The Community Empowerment Act delivered new rights for communities and is backed by the Empowering Communities Fund and the Strengthening Communities Programme. We will build on this by:-

- Setting councils a target of having at least 1 per cent of their budget subject to Community Choices budgeting. This will be backed by the Community Choices Fund to help public bodies and community groups build on examples of best practice.
- Allowing community councils that can demonstrate a strong democratic mandate to deliver some services. We intend that in future community council elections will be held on the same day across the country to increase their profile and recognition.
- Encouraging improved tenant participation in management of their homes. We will use a partner organisation to help tenants become more aware of their rights and encourage tenants to become more involved in the management of properties.

We want to encourage and make it easier for people from all backgrounds to get involved at all levels of decision making. Our elected representatives should better reflect the society we live in.

That is why we will continue to support the Women 50:50 campaign to increase – to 50 per cent – the representation of women in our Parliament, councils and on public boards.

We will also support the One in Five Campaign to increase the participation of disabled people. We will build on the example of the pilot fund for the 2016 elections and establish a £200,000 Elected Office Fund to provide support for disabled people seeking to stand for selection and election in the 2017 local government elections.

### **Valuing our Third Sector**

We have made significant investment in and promoted the role of the third sector, social enterprises and volunteers. The sector plays an important role and we want to increase and encourage it to grow its influence.

We will take steps to consolidate voluntary sector funding into single grant funds to provide greater clarity to applicants. We will also support the extension of core funding.

We will introduce three year rolling funding where possible. We will introduce a system across government that highlights when funding is due to end, to provide greater clarity for the sector and enable better planning for the longer term.

We will provide support to help social enterprises compete for public sector contracts and encourage councils to promote the procurement of services and goods in their local area from the third sector.

The Scottish Government has taken a supportive approach to Supported Businesses, such as Remploy. We use public sector spending, through procurement policy, to assist Supported Businesses and use our influence with leading private sector companies to encourage them to use the sector. We will continue to work with the sector, with BASE and others using public sector spend, to provide practical help for those businesses employing large numbers of people with a disability, so that they have an opportunity to thrive and prosper.

By increasing the number of Modern Apprenticeships in the third sector and social enterprises we will help to diversify skills and training.

### **Building Homes**

We have increased the supply of affordable homes across all tenures and acted to improve energy efficiency. Even in the face of significant cuts to our budget, we exceeded our target to build 30,000 affordable homes in the last five years.

We have also brought an end to right to buy, protecting 15,500 houses in the social rented sector for those who need them.

By targeting our resources, we have helped over 20,000 households into or up the property ladder – three quarters of them under 35. This has helped boost the economy, create jobs and provide homes for people across Scotland.

Over the next parliament, we will invest £3 billion to build at least 50,000 more affordable homes. 35,000 of these will be in the social rented sector. We will also continue to support council house building.

We will also support a further 5,000 households – including 2,000 first time buyers on modest incomes – into home ownership through our Help to Buy and Shared Equity schemes. This will be supported by an initial investment of £160 million in 2016/17.

We will also continue to support first time buyers by maintaining the progressive Land & Building Transaction Tax (LBTT) which reduced tax for those at the lower end of the housing market.

While building new homes is important, we also need to make best use of our existing housing stock. Through flexible grants, loans and guarantees we will help bring empty or derelict properties back into housing use. Through our Empty Homes Partnership, Empty Homes Fund and Town Centre Empty Homes Fund we will encourage councils and individuals to bring empty homes into use for rent or purchase. We will concentrate on rural areas in need of increased housing and town centres that can be rejuvenated and regenerated through such initiatives.