

REPRESENTATION FORM

1. Which section of the Plan would you like to comment on? (Please state clearly which policy, settlement, site reference number, paragraph number etc, your comment relates to)
NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ---BRAEMAR--SITE REF H4

2. What is your comment on this section of the Plan?

My view is that this site should be considered as being part of a "protected open space" and therefore, under policy 1.1, should not be eligible for new housing development. A further view is that any proposal for housing on this site would not "reinforce and enhance the character of the settlement"-- a further condition of policy 1.1. My reasons for this are ;

A basic attraction of Braemar is that visitors get an immediate appreciation and feel for the grandeur of the Cairngorm National Park without having to get into a car or walk far. Chapel Brae is a key visitor walking route to Morone, to Morone Birkwood (a protected SNH site) and to our Duck pond (favourite for children). This open space (H4) provides early majestic views for the visitor and is frequented by iconic wild life (red squirrel, deer and black grouse). The area forms a wild life habitat linking the area of mountain (Morone) with river (Dee). In addition a substantial, ancient and very impressive larch tree sits right in the middle of the proposed site. Permission to remove such a tree would surely not be granted by Natural Heritage bodies.

The area therefore provides locally important habitats AND landscape features which need to be preserved for future visitors.

3. Please state clearly what change/s you wish to see made to the Plan to address your comment

I believe the arguments to support the view "that the area in which H4 is placed deserves the status of protected open space" should be incorporated in the plan.

Site H4 should not be considered an appropriate area for housing development (either under protected space reasoning or reinforce and enhance character of settlement reasoning or both!)

What happens next?

Following the consultation period, all responses will be collated and assessed. The Proposed Local Development Plan and all consultation responses will then be submitted to Scottish Ministers and subject to an Examination by an independent Planning Reporter. You can keep up to date with progress on www.cairngorms.co.uk and Facebook and Twitter via [@cairngormsnews](https://twitter.com/cairngormsnews)

Queries

If you have any queries about the consultation process, please contact a member of the Planning Policy team.

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