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From: Lawrence Robertson 
Sent: 03 March 2014 13:27
To: localplan
Subject: Comments on proposed Local Plan
Attachments: Scottish Wildlife Trust Central Borders Members Centre.pdf; Scottish Wildlife Trust Central Borders Members Centre.docx

These are the comments of the Scottish Wildlife Trust Central Borders Members Centre.

**Scottish Wildlife Trust Central Borders Members Centre
Comments on Scottish Borders Council Proposed Local development
Plan**

Policy EP3 Local Biodiversity We support this policy. Although, at present, housing and commercial developments are not a significant scale of threat to biodiversity ecosystems and wildlife corridors, we would like to see policies HD3,4 and 5 specifically cross referenced to Policy EP3 and measures to encourage enhanced biodiversity on new developments. Given that many are diminishing in value as conservators of species, we are pleased that Local Biodiversity Sites are being given some measure of protection but would like the text to acknowledge that most are sensitive to changes in the surrounding land due to farming practices and lack of continuity of wildlife corridors, and to stress the desire of the Council to overcome this whenever possible.

Policy EP12 Green Networks We support the policy for Green Networks and look forward to the proposed supplementary planning guidance relevant to this. We would stress that there needs to be a balance between the development of a network, particularly with former railway sites, for public access and development which allows diversity for species that may be threatened by proximity to human activity or constrained by having insufficient space. Many former railway sites are already herb-rich and support wildlife.

3 March 2014