

Finalised Draft Local Plan

We are enclosing a petition signed by residents of Ardentinny in support of the objections to a proposal to build houses here, which produced a large amount of opposition to the Draft Local Plan in 2009, both in response to the first consultation and in a public meeting. The Draft Finalised Local Plan brought renewed opposition from a second public meeting and around 90% objections in written responses.

The objections, as you will see from the Responses to the DFLP, are based on the facts that housing, affordable or otherwise, would not at this time improve the quality of life for either young families with or without children or older people because neither accessible employment, improved infrastructure nor other facilities and amenities are present in this area.

The present community has no objection to affordable housing provision, in the future and on an appropriate site, when such employment and improvements become available. Our enquiries have made it clear that there is no evidence of local need for housing in the records of neither the National Park nor the Argyll and Bute Council.

With several existing houses looking for buyers over long periods in the past few years, it is clear that building more would result in a probable increase in holiday homes and empty houses adding to a largely dormant market.

Residents have also shown a willingness and a capacity to become involved in local activity and efforts to improve a community which has unfairly been dubbed "dying" and "elderly", when a closer look at local activity shows many are employed elsewhere or self-employed and more are active in community effort and provision. This illustrates the need for amenities and other facilities which, if present, would give a rationale for more housing.

On behalf of the Local Plan Housing Development Group and Ardentinny Community Council