



**LOHCARRON**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**COUNCIL**

**COMHAIRLE**  
**COIMHEARSNACHD**  
**LOCH CARRAN**

Nikki Milne  
Scottish Executive  
Environment and Rural Affairs Dept  
Marine Management Division  
G-H93  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ

19 December 2006

Dear Ms Milne

**Proposed Coastal and Marine National Parks**

This Community Council, on behalf of the local community, wishes to place on record its objection and opposition to the imposition of any National Park status in this area. As you know from our previous correspondence, we have been particularly concerned at the poor consultation process which has been involved, with a strong suspicion that the dates chosen have conveniently coincided with the festive season, and where the last meeting in Inverness was held on a day when it was not possible for Highland Councillors to be present because of a full Council meeting.

We also have a strong concern that at no time have any of our questions, and indeed those of other interested parties, been answered fully. It would appear that most questions were answered with the words "it all depends"! We are unable to ascertain any benefit to the area, and are of the opinion that the creation of a National Park is just another layer of bureaucracy which the local community will have to fight in order to progress. We also understand that the make-up of this quango will be virtually unrepresentative of the area, as has been the experience elsewhere. We also understand from our representative at the Inverness meeting that there will be two further consultations, but that these will take place after the areas have been designated. How this can be considered "consultation" eludes us.

In conclusion, it would seem that whilst we have given many and varied views to the Executive, this has not been reciprocated, and in fact we have been given very little in the way of facts, promises or commitments.

Yours sincerely

Secretary