

DACC POLICY ON RESPONSES TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. As part of the statutory planning process, DACC has the right to object/comment/express support on any application.
2. When considering an application any of four decisions are possible:
 - a. **Object**,
 - b. **Support**,
 - c. **Comment**, and
 - d. **No Comment**.
3. DACC's default position will be '**No Comment**' unless:
 - a. A significant majority of members present vote to **Support** or **Object**
 - b. A simple majority of members present vote to **Comment**
4. Normally DACC will not intervene in applications for single residential homes. Exceptions to this could be applications which affect a significant part of the Dornoch Area Community (e.g due to adverse effect on a public footpath, a widely visible area of natural beauty or the conservation area of Dornoch).
5. Official responses are made following an invitation to Consult from the planning authority. Such invitations may be sent out as a matter of course by the authority if deemed appropriate, but if not then a specific request for Consultation should be submitted to the named planning officer.
6. Once a Consultation has been received, DACC should submit its agreed decision in writing to the named planning officer in a clear and well-reasoned manner. In particular if DACC objects, the word '**Object**' must be clear and not able to be misinterpreted as a mere comment.