

Simon Hindson Planning Officer Planning and Development Highland Council Glenurquhart Road Inverness IV3 5NX Longmore House Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Direct Line: 0131 668 8960

Andrew.stevenson2@Scotland.gsi.gov.uk

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Date: 24 August 2011

Dear Mr Hindson

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 The Highland Council – Inverness City Centre Development Brief Screening Report

Thank you for consulting Historic Scotland on the screening report for The Highland Council's Inverness City Centre Development Brief received by the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway on 1 August 2011. I have reviewed the screening report on behalf of Historic Scotland in its role as a Consultation Authority under the above Act, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(3). In doing so I have used the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of the effects on the environment. Please note that our view is based on our main area of interest for the historic environment.

My understanding from the screening report is that the development brief aims to offer guidance on development within Inverness City Centre and that this will cover development sites previously identified within the adopted Local Plan. While I consider that the development brief has the potential to deliver positive effects for the historic environment I am content to agree that these effects are unlikely to be strategically significant.

As you will be aware however it is the responsibility of The Highland Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the development brief requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Stevenson

Senior Heritage Management Officer (SEA)



