

(43) Mr D Macpherson

To the Leader of the Council

**On a recent visit to Kilchoan and while travelling around the Ardnamurchan Peninsula at the most westerly point on the UK mainland, I witnessed the impoverished state of the single track roads, the lack of passing places and the many road signs that were barely legible, browned due to fading and bleaching by the elements with discolouration and rusty poles, where even the Highland Council sign to welcome visitors at the Kilchoan Cal-Mac Ferry Terminal was damaged!**

**It was therefore of little surprise to me when conversing with local residents around the Ardnamurchan Peninsula (which was formerly in the Argyll Council area), the local residents expressed their desire to once again be part of Argyll & Bute Council, whom they rely heavily on in the neighbouring Isle of Mull or at Oban, (both places involve making 1 or 2 ferry journeys), simply to access everyday services of doctors, dentist, pharmacy, shopping supplies and essential services. The residents I spoke with stated that Argyll & Bute Council seemed better equipped to understand and support their remote and rural coastal areas, rather than the residents currently feel, as they stated as, “the forgotten and neglected, remote part of Highland Council”.**

**Would Highland Council be prepared to discuss making boundary changes with Argyll & Bute via the Scottish Government, if it helped the vast majority of the community on the Ardnamurchan Peninsula to feel better connected to a local authority that really understood their circumstances and practiced 'Localism' for its remote and rural communities and constituents?**

*The Ardnamurchan Peninsula has been well represented by elected Members of this Council for many years, as I am sure you were informed on your recent visit.*