**The Black Isle Local Place Plan - Your opportunity to help create a Black Isle that we are proud to call home. A Black Isle fit for future generations.**

The aim of the plan is to provide a Black Isle wide vision for the future. It will build on existing consultations and surveys and over the next few weeks we will be consulting with communities across the Black Isle to find out what your priorities for the Black Isle might be. There will be eight drop-in events held in Community Council areas across the Black Isle, where we’ll be seeking your views.

What do you want the Black Isle and your communities to be like in the future? What are the changes you would like to see? What kind of voice do we want to have, sitting in the middle of the Greenport bubble?

Your answers will give you and your Community Councils real influence over the future of your community, because they will be the basis of the Black Isle Local Place Plan - a new feature of Scottish planning legislation that influences Council planning policy and public services. To achieve that, the first stage is for you to tell us what really matters to your communities. Please drop in at one of the March events for a chat and a cuppa.

Then, over the next few months, we’ll organise more events with residents, businesses, Community Councils, Highland Council councillors and staff, and other groups and organisations to work out how to tackle what matters to you in the future. The work is being funded by the Council, so we hope it will have a real impact.

Our logo *Opportunity Black Isle* is in response to the awarding of Greenport status to Opportunity Cromarty Firth. We are not in anyway affiliated to the Greenport. We want to highlight the fact that we’re responsible for creating our own opportunities. The Local Place Plan gives us, the local community, a great opportunity to determine what life on the Black Isle will look like in the coming years. We look forward to working together.

The **Community Engagement Events** kick off in **Cromarty** onMonday 13th March, 3.30pm - 7.30pm at the West Church Hall. Come along, enjoy a cup of tea and some cake and share your views with us. We’d like to hear from as many different folk as possible. It’s really important we gather a wide range of views from all sectors of the community.

If you can’t make the event in your local area, you will be warmly welcomed at any of the events across the Black Isle. For further information please contact either myself: **becky@blackislestud.co.uk** or Nick Wright at: **nick@nickwrightplanning.co.uk**

*Becky Richmond*

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