



27th April 2015
Ref: DSG(2015)C037

Mr S Barron
Chief Executive
Highland Council

Please respond to:

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Dear Mr Barron

PROPOSED REDUCTION IN CAITHNESS WARDS AND COUNCILLORS

As Chairman of DSG, I am writing on behalf of Dounreay Stakeholder Group members to provide you with our views on the potential reduction of wards and Councillors within the Caithness area.

As we understand it there is a proposal to reduce The Highland Council wards in Caithness to two which would result in Caithness being split into two wards rather than the three which is currently the case. This ultimately would reduce the number of Councillors by two.

We would like to make the case that Caithness is unique in the geography that it covers and that the three wards should be retained especially since the landward area covers the Dounreay site and the potential impact to our community on the closure programme. Whilst retaining the three wards there is still scope to reduce Councillors by one which would be a proportionate reduction of Councillors in Caithness when compared to other areas.

We ask that you consider this alternative argument to retaining the three wards whilst still reducing Councillors by one.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Send electronically without signature

**David Flear
DSG Chairman**