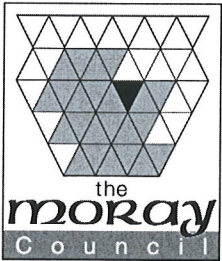


FH



Fax: (01343) 563483

**Donald Lunan**  
*Planning and Development Manager*

Development Services  
Environmental Services Department  
The Moray Council  
Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX  
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**Contact:** Amanda Howard  
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**Direct Dial:** (01343) 563265  
**Our Ref:** AH/KT/07-0439  
**Your Ref:**

25<sup>th</sup> September 2007

**FAO Fraser Maxwell**

Scott Wilson  
23 Chester Street  
Edinburgh, EH3 7EM

Dear Mr Maxwell

**RE: A96 Threapland Junction Improvements Scoping Report**

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment on the above Scoping Report. Please note that my comments are in relation to further environmental information that the Council hold, which may be relevant to the proposal.

The Scoping Report for the preferred option seems very thorough in its coverage of environmental/cultural heritage issues. It has picked up on all but one of the affected designations the Council would take into account in assessing the proposal under the current Moray Development Plan 2000 (or under the new Local Plan – currently anticipated to be adopted in mid-2009, pending the findings of the Public Local Inquiry).

Please find attached a map showing a local SINS (Site of Interest to Natural Science) – ‘Lhanbryde Lochs’ – designation within the potentially affected area for the project. The site is described as an excellent example of a kettle complex. The Lochs are also deemed of interest for their rich fauna and flora and, in particular, their marshland birds. I mention the designation in the interests of being thorough, as the SSSI designation of Loch Oire has already prompted your assessment of potential environmental issues within the SINS.

I hope my comments have been helpful. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about the information provided.

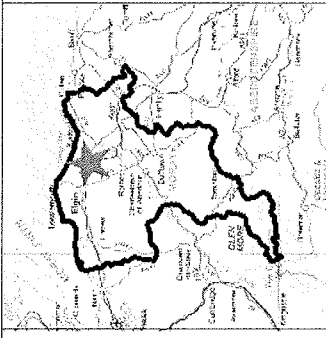
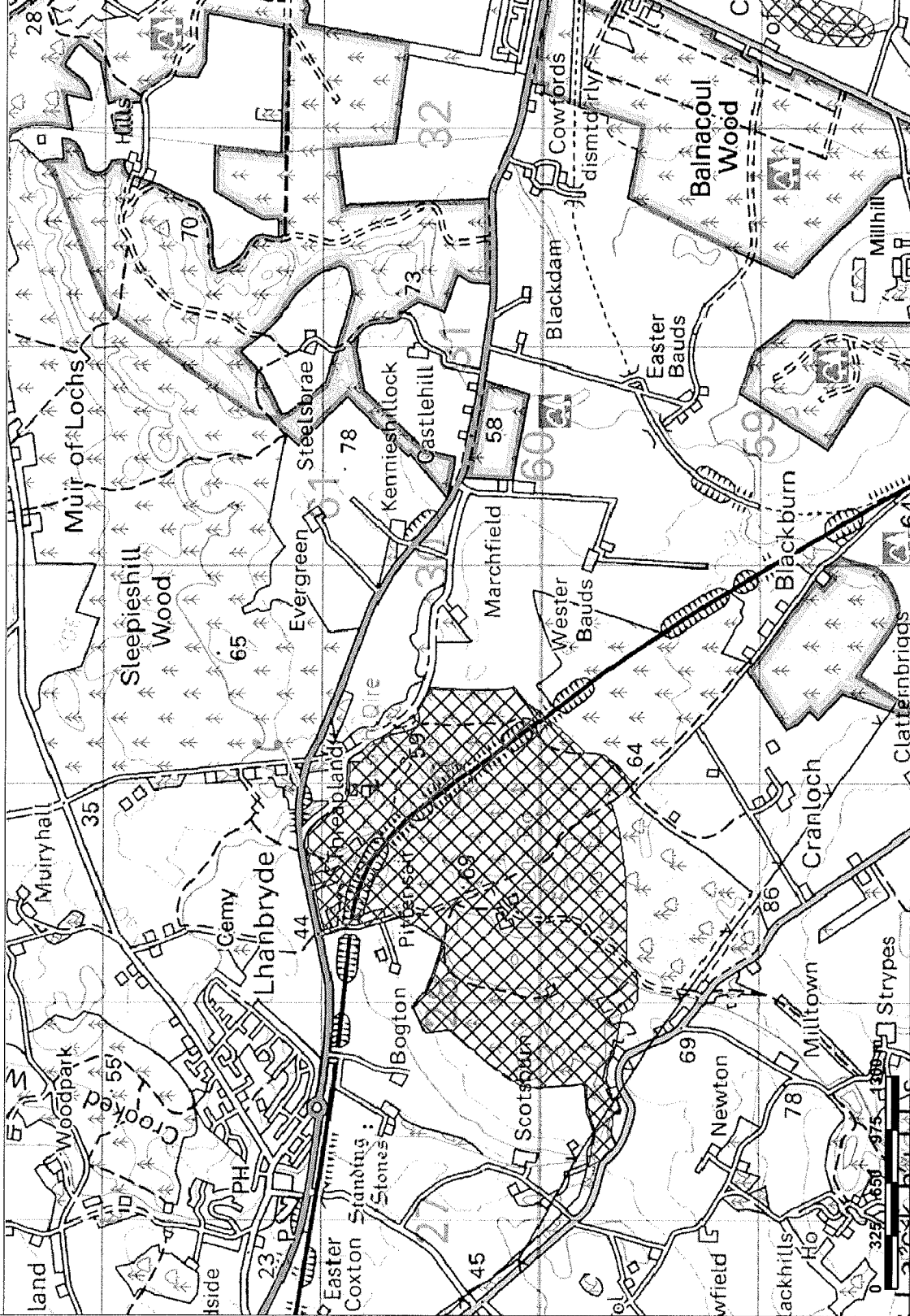
Yours Sincerely

**Amanda Howard**  
**Planning Officer**



*Enc.*



# SINS Site - Lhanbryde Lochs

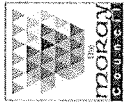


## Legend

-  2007 Moray Wards
-  Sites of Interest to Natural Science (SINS)



Scale: 1:35,949



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