



**West Lothian
Council**

Chief Executive Office

Meeting Date - 23 February 2021
Item No.5

**West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
Livingston
West Lothian
EH54 8FF**

**Our Ref: CEO/MH
Your Ref:**

**Contact: Graham Hope
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Private and Confidential
The Rt Hon. Nicola Sturgeon MSP
First Minister
The Scottish Government
St. Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

10 February 2021

Dear First Minister

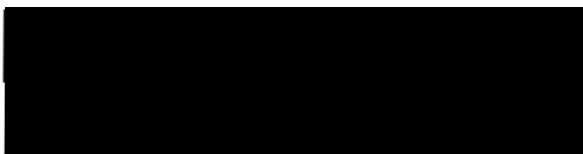
National Planning Framework 4 Position Statement

A meeting of Council Executive was held on 9 February 2021, at which the above matter was discussed.

It was agreed that I write to you to request that the Scottish Government, without delay, introduces updated Scottish Planning Policy to give absolute protection to ancient woodland and hedges, and for developments exceeding 0.25 hectares, provide an ecological report carried out at a time of year when plant / mammal / insect and bird life are most readily identifiable.

I attach a copy of the agreed Notice of Motion for your consideration.

Yours sincerely



Graham Hope
Chief Executive

Encl.



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