

17 November 2023

Mr David Cairns  
Catch Loch Leven  
By email: [info@CATCH-LochLeven.org](mailto:info@CATCH-LochLeven.org)



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Dear David

### **Catch Loch Leven – Statement of Support**

We write as the four elected members for Ward 8 (Kinross-shire) in support of the proposals to explore further the possibility of a district heating system for Kinross-shire, utilising a water-based heat exchange system in Loch Leven.

We recognise the importance of addressing climate change as a matter of urgency and that is why it is important to be ambitious, bold and explore new technologies to decarbonise how we heat our homes. That said, we are aware that the use of both district heating systems and water-based heat exchange systems are proven technologies and used in other parts of the world such as Denmark.

Furthermore, having been independently identified as a potentially suitable site, we recognise that such a system at Loch Leven, in addition to helping to tackle climate change, would bring both social and economic benefits to Kinross-shire through lower energy bills and increased jobs.

Whilst any development of this nature would need to be subject to extensive community engagement and fundraising, as well as the planning and regulatory systems, we do commend the extensive work taken thus far by Catch Loch Leven. Therefore, we are happy to support the efforts to move to the project to the next steps, in particular to better assess the feasibility of such a scheme.

We do hope this letter of cross-party support will be of assistance to the project and we look forward to supporting Catch Loch Leven in the future.

Yours sincerely

Councillor D Cuthbert (Independent)  
Kinross-shire (Ward 8) Councillor

Councillor W Robertson (Scottish  
Liberal Democrat)  
Kinross-shire (Ward 8) Councillor

Councillor N Freshwater (Scottish Conservative)  
Kinross-shire (Ward 8) Councillor

Councillor R Watters (Scottish National Party)  
Kinross-shire (Ward 8) Councillor

**From:** Milnathort Community Council <communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 03 December 2023 12:08  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** District Heating for Kinross and Milnathort

Dear David Cairns,

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council is writing to express our strong support for the District Heating proposal in Perth and Kinross, which aims to provide sustainable and affordable heating solutions for households and businesses in the area.

This is a proven technology that can reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency, lower fuel bills and create local jobs. According to the Scottish Government, District Heating has the potential to meet 20% of Scotland's heat demand by 2030.

The District Heating proposal in Perth and Kinross is a visionary project that aligns with the national and local policies and strategies on climate change, energy efficiency and fuel poverty. The project will benefit hundreds of households and businesses.

The project will also contribute to the development of a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) for Perth and Kinross, which is a statutory duty for local authorities under the Energy Efficient Scotland programme. The LHEES will provide a long-term vision and action plan for decarbonising the heat supply and improving the energy performance of buildings in the area.

We believe that the District Heating proposal in Perth and Kinross is a worthy and innovative initiative that deserves our full support and approval. It will not only enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of the residents and businesses in the area, but also demonstrate the leadership and commitment of Perth and Kinross Council in tackling the climate emergency and achieving a net-zero future.

Yours sincerely,  
Allan Macrae  
MOCC Secretary on behalf of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council

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## **MILNATHORT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Please note that any correspondence entered into and/or any work instructed is done solely on behalf of Milnathort Community Council and without any personal liability on the part of any office bearer or member of the Community Council.

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**From:** Hannah Phillips <editor@kinrossnewsletter.org>  
**Sent:** 07 November 2023 11:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Statement of Support

Dear David,

I am pleased to send you this statement of support on behalf of KCC.

CATCH are working on a local heat and energy efficiency strategy which involves utilising Loch Leven as a heat source and supplying energy by means of underground pipes to homes in Kinross.  
60% of PKC households are now defined as being in fuel poverty. We are in a climate crisis, and need to find new energy sources. While heat pumps are a great source of renewable energy, two-thirds of houses would require a major upgrade in order for their installation to be successful.  
District heating is not a new idea: it has been successfully implemented elsewhere, mostly in Europe. These systems providing low cost, low carbon energy to local communities and the technologies are well proven.  
Loch Leven is currently under stress. Climate change is driving rising temperatures, combined with long standing issues of nutrient run-off which are changing the eco-system balance.  
CATCH are looking to consult with the wider community about their project.  
Kinross Community Council is happy to encourage them to keep going with their work on the project and wishes them success with public consultation work.

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Hannah Phillips  
Secretary  
Kinross Community Council



27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

To whom it may concern,

**Climate Action Through Community Heating (CATCH) Loch Leven**

As you may be aware, CATCH Loch Leven is a community group working towards the aim of reducing fuel poverty and decarbonising Kinross and Milnathort. The group was formed in response to the Scottish Government's Energy Transition Strategy, which requires each local authority to produce a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES).

CATCH Loch Leven have participated in the Perth and Kinross LHEES consultation and encouraged them to broaden their ambitions for heat networks. This includes seeking a greater emphasis on the scope for district heating in rural towns, and exploring the possibility of community-owned solar power and energy storage to support with energy bills and transition to greener energy.

The Scottish Government has a target to raise energy efficiency standards for all buildings by 2033, heat networks have an important role to play in this as well as insulating homes to reduce energy costs. Running these heat networks in the public interest is a goal that is shared with groups like CATCH Loch Leven who are exploring ways to achieve this in their community.

I am in full support of the aims of the CATCH Loch Leven group and understand the pressures households are facing with rising energy prices, as well as the need to decarbonise our homes. Having met with the group recently I understand that the next steps for their project include community consultation and feasibility studies. I wish them every success as they progress with these aims, and hope that others will be support of them too.

Yours sincerely,

**Mark Ruskell MSP**

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** Bruce Crawford <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 08 November 2023 10:19  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: District Heating scheme for Kinross and Milnathort

Dear David

Thank you very much for your e-mail update. I have shared the contents of your email with the Directors of the Kinross-shire Partnership.

We are very grateful to you for keeping us abreast of the CATCH Project as it evolves. As you are already aware the Partnership is very supportive of the aims and objectives of CATCH. Indeed Partnership Directors have been supporting and providing advice, where we can, in order to help you bring the project into reality. We have no doubts that should the project be delivered as envisaged there would be very significant benefits released for the Community of the Kinross and Milnathort areas in terms of social capital. But equally importantly, so too, there would be very important environmental benefits gained both locally and nationally. At this challenging time in terms of energy costs and the need to reduce humankind's global carbon footprint it is time to think big and that is what the CATCH Project does - we wish you all the best in your attempt to deliver the projects aims and objectives.

Best regards

Bruce Crawford

Chairperson Kinross-shire Partnership