Archived: 20 January 2021 19:57:03 From: Sent: Wed, 20 Jan 2021 13:51:11 To: Subject: Comment re development plan Hollybush valley Sensitivity: Normal

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Sir/Madam,

As residents of Galashiels we are writing to object to the proposed plans to develop housing around the area of Hollybush and Gala Policies. Also to the proposed road to go from Balmoral onto the Hollybush and widening of the Hollybush road to connect with the A7.

These plans severely affect an area used by so many local people to exercise, relax and enjoy the countryside within walking distance of home. We make a big deal of the outstanding beauty of the Borders to attract tourists but don't seem to value protecting the spaces we have which are accessible to our local people for their general health and wellbeing as well as local wildlife

If the Hollybush area is developed, the road there will become very busy and unusable to the many walkers, runners, cyclists and horse riders who use this road as their main route in and out of the town as it is the only safe and quiet usable road at the moment.

It seems absurd that this development is proposed when there are so many empty houses within Galashiels. Why are these not being used instead before taking up valuable greenspace?

Please put forward our objections and if you could please confirm receipt

Yours faithfully.

Lucy and Dick McTaggart

