

AGENDA ITEM 6

APPENDIX 4b

2016/0434/DET

**REPRESENTATIONS
GENERAL**

Cairngorms National Park Authority

14 The Square

Grantown on Spey

Scotland

PH26 3HG

By Email: planning@cairngorms.co.uk

Date: 07/12/2016

Dear Sir or Madam

16/05133/FUL Development of 6 no, affordable homes & associated access road, car-parking & landscaping Land South Of Dellmhor Rothiemurchus Aviemore

RSPB Scotland has considered the above application and supporting documents but takes no view at present on the merits, or otherwise, of the proposals. However, we note the proximity of the development site to the Cairngorms Special Protection Area (SPA).

It is necessary, therefore, that Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) as competent authority carry out an appropriate assessment to determine implications for the SPA conservation objectives. Only if that assessment concludes that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the SPA can planning permission be granted.

We note that this application is within 10 minutes walk and cycle of woodlands that supports a meta-population of capercaillie. If this application were to be consented, it may lead to increased recreational usage of the surrounding area with potential for increased disturbance to capercaillie. It is therefore necessary to consider recreational impact upon the local populations of capercaillie within the assessment for this application. We would recommend that appropriate information is provided in the form of an information pack for residences regarding the importance of the nearby woodlands for sensitive species such as capercaillie. The pack should contain information on potential recreational disturbance issues and the sensitive lekking and breeding period.

North Scotland Office
Etive House
Beechwood Park
Inverness
IV2 3BW
rspb.org.uk

Tel 01463 715000
Fax 01408 715315



The RSPB is part of BirdLife International,
a partnership of conservation organisations
working to give nature a home around the world.

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen **Chairman of Council:** Professor Steve Ormerod, FIEEM **President:** Miranda Krestovnikoff
Chairman, Committee for Scotland: Professor Colin Galbraith **Director, RSPB Scotland:** Stuart Housden OBE **Regional Director:** George Campbell

The RSPB is a registered charity in England and Wales 207076, in Scotland SCO37654

