



Full engagement report

2012 - Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2020 - Main Issues Report Consultation

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Background

Work is under way on preparing the next Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan (LDP), which needs to be adopted by the time the current LDP expires in 2020. The new LDP will contain a series of maps, policies and site allocations to guide the use and development of land within the National Park during the period 2020-2025 and beyond.

The process for producing the LDP is set out in planning legislation and includes a number of stages of consultation and engagement. The first formal stage of public engagement is the Main Issues Report (MIR). This will provide a summary of the key issues that the new LDP will need to address and present the planning authority's views on the potential options for tackling them (including both the preferred options and other reasonable alternatives).

Uploaded documents which relate to this engagement:

This engagement has no documents.

Other engagements which have links to this engagement:

This engagement has no linked engagements.

STEP 1: ANALYSE

Our purpose for engaging is...

To seek opinions on the main issues that we have identified for the next LDP, to obtain views on whether our preferred options for addressing the main issues are appropriate, and to identify whether there are other issues that the next LDP will need to address. The feedback from the engagement process will be used to inform the content of the final LDP.

We are seeking to

Engage

To take shared decisions - This means the community will influence options and choices of action.

To take shared action - This means the community will share in any action taken.

To support community led action - This means the community will lead the action.

What do we know about the community and the issue?

There is currently an LDP in place which covers the period from 2015-2020. We are legally required to keep the LDP up-to-date and review it at least every 5 years. We must therefore have a new LDP in place by 2020.

The focus of the Main Issues Report (MIR) is to identify the key issues that the new LDP will need to address. It does not aim to cover every topic that the new LDP will cover. Instead it aims to identify the most important areas where change to the existing LDP is required, e.g. where changes in circumstances mean that the new LDP might need to take a different approach to the existing plan.

We have produced a Monitoring Statement which reflects on the use and application of the existing LDP. This has given us a good understanding of what the main issues for the new LDP are likely to be. We have also undertaken early engagement with Community Councils/Associations and other key stakeholders to help us identify main issues for the new LDP.

This has resulted in the identification of the following main issues:

- 1) Over-arching development strategy
- 2) Designing great places
- 3) Impacts and opportunities from the A9 and Highland Main Line upgrades
- 4) Housing
- 5) Affordable housing
- 6) Economic development
- 7) Impacts on Natura designations
- 8) Planning obligations
- 9) Digital connectivity
- 10) Flood risk and climate change resilience
- 11) Land management in upland areas

In addition, we have identified main issues for each of the identified settlements in the National Park (including potential development sites).

What do we still need to know?

We want to obtain wider views on whether the right main issues have been identified and, if not, what other issues the new LDP will need to address.

We also want views on how the new LDP should address the main issues. Specifically, we want to know whether people agree with our preferred options for addressing the issues or, if not, what other reasonable options there might be for tackling the issues.

The views that we obtain during the engagement process will help to shape the final content of the LDP.

Who are the community participants?

Elected representatives
Representatives of community / voluntary groups
Community Councils / Community Associations
Social enterprises
Individual members of the public

Who are the agency participants?

Key stakeholders, such as SEPA, Scottish Water, Transport Scotland, Local Authorities etc.
Developers / landowners
Environmental organisations
Other voluntary groups and organisations

Who needs encouragement?

Groups that are typically least likely to engage with the consultation (based on past experiences) include younger people, disabled people and working families.

Are there any conflicts of interest that might emerge?

There are likely to be strongly opposing views on some topic areas, particularly between groups who would wish to promote more land for development and those with a strong desire for environmental protection.

However, the MIR engagement process will be designed to ensure that all interest groups have the opportunity to express their views and to ensure that the LDP production process is not dominated by any one interest group.

The MIR engagement process will also seek to engage with different interest groups using a range of different methods to ensure that everyone has the chance to express their views. For example, online and social media methods will be used as far as possible to help engage with younger people and working families who are likely to have greater time pressures. In addition, printed consultation material will be available to view at information points across the National Park for people who might not have internet access etc.

What is the engagement locality?

Within the Cairngorms National Park

Who are we engaging with, are they a thematic group?

Members of the public, local community groups, developers / landowners and other key stakeholders with an interest in the development and use of land within the National Park

What is the overall purpose of the engagement?

Improve policy or practice

STEP 2: PLAN

What outcomes are Partners looking for, and what will the success look like?

The engagement should achieve these outcomes

- 1 Reach target audiences and inspire them to engage in the consultation process
- 2 Raise awareness of the main issues for the LDP and gather views and proposed solutions for addressing them via a formal response form (available online and as a paper based form)

Outcome indicators and sources of evidence

Reach and engagement levels of our target audiences via our website, through social media and at organised events / meetings

The number of formal responses received

What barriers might affect anyone who should be involved?

Physical - given the rural nature of the National Park, it may be difficult for people to travel to specific locations to attend planned engagement events.

Capacity - the LDP is a statutory planning document, and will cover matters that are likely to be technical in nature and may require some specialist understanding to fully engage with.

Technological - some people may have limited internet access and might therefore find it difficult to access online consultation materials.

What resources might be needed to overcome these barriers?

Physical - CNPA's website and social media will play an important role in enabling people over a dispersed rural area to access and respond to the consultation. CNPA will use this as a key tool for providing information and keeping communities and stakeholders up-to-date about the MIR consultation and the production of the LDP.

Capacity - the MIR consultation document will be written in plain English to provide a simple and straightforward introduction to each of the main issues. This is aimed to help people without prior knowledge to make an informed response to the consultation. Technical information will be removed from the main consultation document wherever possible, and will be presented separately within supporting evidence documents.

Technological - printed copies of all consultation materials will be made available at locations throughout the National Park (including CNPA offices, libraries and local authority offices) to enable viewing by those with limited internet access. CNPA will also be flexible and make reasonable adjustments to the consultation materials wherever possible (e.g. providing large copy prints on request) to enable as many people as possible to get involved in the consultation process.

Is there a need for independent advocacy, community development support, or specialist advice and, if so, where would it come from?

We will seek support from community support organisations such as Voluntary Action Badenoch & Strathspey (VABS) and the Marr Area Partnership to help plan and publicise the overall engagement process and specific consultation events.

What resources are available to us?

There is a budget to support the engagement process, which includes the hire of venues where necessary. The CNPA's Community Support Manager, along with VABS and the Marr Area Partnership will also be able to provide support and advice to communities about the consultation process.

What methods will we use and what actions will be taken to meet our outcomes?

Key actions (including the lead responsibility) are:

Method and related outcome	What, who and when
1 Promoting the consultation using publicity material (consultation identity, video clips if appropriate etc) to raise awareness of the consultation. This material will be used online and through social media	CNPA's communications team to lead this activity
2 Making consultation materials and response forms available at key locations throughout the National Park	CNPA's planning team to ensure that consultation materials are available for viewing at all CNPA offices, libraries and local authority offices across the Park
3 To help inform stakeholders, local communities and members of the public about the issues set out in the consultation, a series of public events will be held in locations across the Park. These will aim to help more people understand the issues and encourage them to respond to the consultation	Consultation programme to be developed. Programme to include a series of drop-in events to be held in different locations across the Park.
4 Writing to key stakeholders, known interest groups, and statutory consultees to inform them of the consultation and encourage them to submit responses	CNPA's planning team to ensure that these groups are all notified about the consultation process and encouraged to respond

STEP 3: DO

Progress 1 of 4

Method and related outcome

Promoting the consultation using publicity material (consultation identity, video clips if appropriate etc) to raise awareness of the consultation. This material will be used online and through social media

What, who and when

CNPA's communications team to lead this activity

What actions have we taken so far?

The Communications team have started working with graphic designers to develop clear, accessible and attractive consultation materials and review the requirements for other supporting campaign materials.

The mechanisms for disseminating the consultation materials and publicising the consultation process (CNPA website and social media accounts etc) are already in place.

What issues have arisen and what remedial action, if any, are we taking as a result?

All final consultation documents / materials will be reviewed by the Communications team to ensure they are clear and accessible.

Progress 2 of 4

Method and related outcome

Making consultation materials and response forms available at key locations throughout the National Park

What, who and when

CNPA's planning team to ensure that consultation materials are available for viewing at all CNPA offices, libraries and local authority offices across the Park

What actions have we taken so far?

The consultation materials are currently being finalised. The distribution lists / addresses for consultation materials are already in place. This will enable easy distribution of the final consultation documents prior to the start of the consultation.

What issues have arisen and what remedial action, if any, are we taking as a result?

No issues at present.

Progress 3 of 4

Method and related outcome

To help inform stakeholders, local communities and members of the public about the issues set out in the

What, who and when

Consultation programme to be developed. Programme to

consultation, a series of public events will be held in locations across the Park. These will aim to help more people understand the issues and encourage them to respond to the consultation

include a series of drop-in events to be held in different locations across the Park.

What actions have we taken so far?

Key consultation audiences have been identified and a consultation programme is being developed to ensure appropriate opportunities are made for them to engage with the consultation.

What issues have arisen and what remedial action, if any, are we taking as a result?

No issues at present.

Progress 4 of 4

Method and related outcome

Writing to key stakeholders, known interest groups, and statutory consultees to inform them of the consultation and encourage them to submit responses

What, who and when

CNPA's planning team to ensure that these groups are all notified about the consultation process and encouraged to respond

What actions have we taken so far?

Key stakeholders, known interest groups and statutory consultees have been identified. Distribution / address lists are in place to enable easy distribution of the consultation documents to all of these identified stakeholders at the start of the consultation.

What issues have arisen and what remedial action, if any, are we taking as a result?

No issues at present.

STEP 4: REVIEW

How well have we met the National Standards for Community Engagement - what worked and what didn't?

View scoring criteria. Score each standard as

1 = Not met the standards at all

6 = Fully met the standards

Status of engagement

Active



VOICE has been developed by SCDC
for The Scottish Government.

This report was produced using VOICE - Visioning Outcomes in Community Engagement Developed by Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC). www.voicescotland.org.uk

