

ANNEX II: Vision

1. Vision

Imagine a world-class National Park – an outstanding environment in which the natural and cultural resources are cared for by the people that live there; a renowned international destination with fantastic opportunities for all to enjoy special places; an exemplar of sustainable development showing how people and place can thrive together. A National Park that makes a significant contribution to our local, regional and national identity.

This is our vision for the Cairngorms National Park in 2030.

Conserving and Enhancing the Park – 25 year outcomes

2006	2030
Active land management shapes the landscape of the Park, and its special qualities, but is facing significant changes in policy and economic conditions.	An active and productive land management sector will continue to shape the landscape , which will be recognised as a significant regional and national asset.
The montane areas of the Park are known for the experience of wildness enjoyed by many.	The sense of wildness , particularly in the high montane areas, will be enhanced and renowned as a particular special quality of the area that continues to be enjoyed by many.
The Park has a rich biodiversity including many habitats and species of national and international importance.	The Park's biodiversity will be richer, better connected and able to adapt to a changing climate. Areas of national and international importance will be exemplars of good management, set within a broader network of well managed habitats.
The Park contains an internationally important record of geodiversity , particularly landforms associated with glaciation, but these are under-recorded and little known beyond specialists.	The important geodiversity record in the Park will be widely recognised and will be well managed and conserved.
There are distinctive patterns of local architecture and design in the area's built heritage and settlements, but new development in places detracts from the pattern and character of settlements.	The built heritage of the Park will be safeguarded and new buildings will complement or enhance their setting, including the settlement pattern and character.
There are widespread archaeology and material records providing evidence of previous generations living in the area, but there are significant gaps in recording, understanding and care to conserve this heritage.	The archaeological evidence and material records of previous generations will be well recorded and understood, actively cared for and safeguarded.
There are many cultures and traditions amongst the communities of the Park, but many are at risk of being lost over time.	The cultures and traditions associated with the people and communities of the Park will be well recognised and continue to evolve as part of a living culture that secures tomorrow's cultural heritage.

Living and Working in the Park – 25 year outcomes	
2006	2030
There are many active communities in the Park seeking ways to shape their own future, but current population trends challenge long-term sustainability.	There will be thriving and sustainable communities throughout the Park that are confident to share their ideas, experience and culture in actively shaping their own future and enjoying a sense of ownership of the National Park.
Training and employment opportunities are restricted to a few sectors, limiting the potential for many people in the Park to develop their skills.	There will be a wide range of opportunities for people in the National Park to develop their skills and employment options that will meet the needs of individuals and businesses.
Businesses are starting to identify opportunities associated with the National Park, but the wider value to the regional economy is yet to be realised.	The outstanding environment of the Park will stimulate economic activity, businesses will thrive , and the Park will make a significant contribution to the wider regional economy.
Some business sectors, such as tourism and land management, are increasingly seeking to ensure positive impacts on the area's communities, environment and special qualities.	Delivering economic, social and environmental sustainability will be an integral part of every business. Businesses will manage their impacts to ensure a positive contribution to the area's communities, environment and special qualities.
Many, particularly young people and those on low incomes, are unable to access housing that meets their needs. Housing is of variable quality and often inefficient in its use of resources.	People will be able to access housing that meets their needs through rent or purchase. Housing of all types will be of good quality and new development will implement sustainable design principles.
Transport infrastructure and provision does not fully meet the needs of residents, businesses or visitors, and is heavily reliant on private car use, constraining the development of sustainable communities and interaction with the wider regional economy.	The National Park will be a leader in sustainable rural transport . Infrastructure and provision will meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors and strengthen the regional interaction of the Park. It will have reduced the dependence on private car use, reduced barriers to travel and helped facilitate sustainable development.
There are significant pressures on infrastructure arising from energy, water use and waste management .	There will be a vibrant renewable energy, recycling and waste sector in the National Park resulting in more sustainable patterns of the use, supply and management of energy, water and waste , together with greater awareness and action by individuals, businesses and organisations.
Enjoying and Understanding the Park – 25 year outcomes	
2006	2030
The Cairngorms National Park is a new entity and people are uncertain of what it means to be a National Park, and what they can expect of it.	The Cairngorms National Park will be renowned in Scotland and internationally, and will make a significant positive contribution to Scotland's national identity.
The area is already a popular tourism destination , although infrastructure,	The Cairngorms National Park will be an internationally recognised world class sustainable

marketing and service provision is not yet co-ordinated to best effect.	tourism destination that consistently exceeds residents' and visitors' expectations in terms of quality of environment, services and experience.
There is a good network of off-road paths and tracks to enjoy outdoor access in most areas of the Park.	There will be an excellent and integrated network of routes to enjoy outdoor access across the Park that meets the needs of residents and visitors.
There is an unusually wide and highly valued range of outdoor recreation activities available, both formal and informal.	There will be an even higher quality and increased range of outdoor recreation activities available and accessible to a wider range of people of all abilities to enjoy the Park.
The concept of responsible behaviour in terms of outdoor access is beginning to become established among those taking recreational access and those managing land.	There will be a high level of understanding and widespread practice of responsible behaviour in the Cairngorms. Outdoor access will be enjoyed and managed as an integral part of a broader recreational experience and in ways that promote enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park while conserving them.
There is a range of interpretation places using various media across the Park focused on specific aspects, but the sense of collective interpretation to reveal and raise understanding of the National Park and its special qualities is yet to be realised.	Interpretation of the National Park will be of an internationally high standard revealing the significance and meaning of the National Park and its special qualities, helping people to understand and enjoy the area.
Many organisations use the Park as a resource for informal and formal learning , but the potential for contributing to national learning is yet to be realised.	The Park will be a significant national learning resource that raises understanding of the special qualities and sustainable development, but also contributes to national objectives.
There is a wealth of knowledge about many of the special qualities and resources of the Park from existing research and previous work. However, there are significant gaps in knowledge in some natural heritage resources and many cultural heritage and socio-economic resources.	Key gaps in knowledge will have been addressed, and the National Park will lead the way in research on issues such as sustainable development and rural tourism. Information will be widely accessible and contribute fully to the knowledge economy of the region and Scotland.