

Annex 1

NPPP Monitoring Framework Update August 2023

Nature

Name	A1 Net Zero
Objective	Ensure the Cairngorms National Park reaches net zero as soon as possible and contributes all it can to helping Scotland meet its net zero commitments.
Target / Indicator	By 2023, establish the timeframe within which the Cairngorms National Park will be net zero and set a target for becoming carbon negative.
	Annual independent progress report on net zero for the Cairngorms National Park.
Baseline 2022	 Small World Consultancy report 2022: Annual emissions from residents: 277,145 tCO2e (14.4 tCO2e per person per year) Annual emissions from visitors while in the National Park: 89,788 tCO2e (20.8 kgCO2e per visitor-day) Annual emissions from visitors travelling to/from the National Park: 232,591 tCO2e (112.5 kgCO2e per visit) Annual industry emissions: 64,853 tCO2e
Monitoring Data - Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Small World Consultancy annual progress report, commissioned by Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	
Progress 2022 - 2023	The primary drivers towards achieving net zero by 2025 are peatland restoration and woodland targets. Woodland expansion has been lower than expected but is not thought to be of significant





impact at this stage. As part of the UK National Parks partnership,
the Park Authority has signed up to the race to zero challenge, a
commitment to delivering target for Greenhouse Gas Commitments
in line with the Paris Agreement.

Name	A2 Woodland expansion
Objective	Increase the amount of woodland in the National Park to support larger, more natural woodlands, expanding in places up to a natural treeline, providing connections across river catchments and around the central core of the mountains.
Target / Indicator	 A minimum of 35,000 ha of new woodland cover created by 2045, which: a) Includes a minimum of 80% native woodland. b) Includes a minimum of 10,000 ha of natural regeneration without planting. c) Results in no wholesale conversion of enclosed, in-bye agricultural land to forestry. d) Minimises the amount of fencing in the National Park by favouring establishment through herbivore management and removing redundant fences.
Baseline 2022	35,000 ha to be created by 2045.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Hectares (Ha) of new woodland Forest Grant Scheme approvals including the Ha of native woodland, Ha of natural regen and Ha of schemes approved without fencing. Collected annually by Scottish Forestry in March.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Discussion with Scottish Forestry and with mangers of non-grant funded proposals.
Progress 2022- 2023	April 2022 – Mar 2023: • 402.98 ha of woodland creation was approved





105.48 (26%) of which was natural regenerationAll schemes are fenced
Progress against targets has been lower than expected. This reflects the National trend. It is thought to be because of several factors including COVID impacts on markets, hesitation around a
revised Forest Grant Scheme and potential carbon markets.

Name	A3 Peatland restoration
Objective	Restore and manage peatland within the National Park to reduce carbon emissions and improve biodiversity.
Target / Indicator	A minimum of 38,000 ha peatland is under restoration management by 2045. • 80% of all drains are restored by 2035. • All erosion features are restored by 2050. • 6500ha under restoration by 2027
Baseline 2022	38,000ha of peatland to be restored by 2045.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Ha actively eroding / erosion features & Ha drain blocking collected annually in March by Park Authority Peatland Action Team.
Monitoring Data - Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Project delivery, assessments of resource and expressions of interest from land managers, collected ad hoc by Peatland Team.
Progress 2022 - 2023	1,080ha brought under restoration The area of restoration exceeded the target. The new entrant scheme successfully increased the number of contractors working in the area. Efficiencies have been made and land manager confidence increased through the use of multi-year contracts. New trials established for working with higher deer densities.



Name	A4 Deer and herbivore impacts
Objective	Reduce the negative impacts of red deer and other herbivores across the National Park to enable woodlands to expand, heather loss to be reversed, peatlands to recover and wider biodiversity and landscape enhancements to take place.
Target / Indicator	Average open range red deer densities in each deer management group are a maximum of five to eight per km² by 2030.
	Non-native sika and fallow deer will be contained within their current distribution in the National Park by 2030.
	Indicator: Impact of herbivores on Partnership Plan ecological restoration targets (peatland, moorland and structural diversity in moorland)
Baseline 2022	 Cairngorms & Speyside <5/km² (2016 data) South Deeside & North Angus 10/km² (2022 data) South Grampians 16/km² (2022 data) Upper Deeside & Donside 6-7/km² (2016 data) West Grampian DMG: 20 deer/km² (2022 data)
	Assessment of current distribution of sika and fallow is to be collected from Deer Management Group meetings during 2023.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Helicopter counts collected by NatureScot, full open range count scheduled 2026/27. Habitat Impact Assessments and red deer foot counts, collected by Deer Management Groups Site Condition Monitoring collected by Naturescot Cairngorm Nature Index moorland indicators
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Annual sika and fallow reporting by Deer Management Groups.



Progress 2022 -	A Section 7 agreement is in place for the South Grampian deer
2023	Management Group and the Caenlochan special Area of
	Conservation. Deer managers and NatureScot have agreed a plan
	to reduce deer densities to 10/km² over the next 3 years. Strategic
	Land Use Plans, including natural capital assessments and deer
	population modelling, have been completed for the three Deer
	Management Groups in the south of the Park as part of Heritage
	Horizons: Cairngorms 2030 development phase.

Name	A5 Moorland Management
Objective	Increase the sustainability of moorland management in the National Park to ensure greater species and structural diversity in moorland areas of the National Park.
Target / Indicator	Target: A measurable and sustained increase in both the home range, occupation and breeding success of golden eagle, hen harrier, merlin and peregrine across the National Park. Indicator: Increased species and habitat diversity on grouse moors, linking together a natural transition from woodland to montane scrub to upland heath.
Baseline 2022	 2019 - 2021 average: Golden Eagle - 39 Hen Harrier - 21 (National survey due in 2023) Merlin - don't have data as no comprehensive survey Peregrine - 17 (based on limited survey) Ha of scrub juniper, willows, and young natural regeneration to be surveyed and collated in 2023. Moorland diversity indicators scheduled 2026.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Annual Raptor Study Group raptor monitoring data, Raptor project officer. Number of persecution incidents, Police Scotland, annually.

Page **6** of **32**



	Ha of juniper, willows and young natural regeneration re-surveyed every 5 years, collected by East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership Officer. Moorland diversity indicators via Cairngorms Nature Index, every 5 years, Adam Fraser.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Assessments of potential and current moorland management projects and practices, collected ad hoc by Park Authority. Assessments of impact of new Wildlife Management Bill, collected ad hoc by Park Authority and Naturescot.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Raptor data, number of persecution incidents & assessment of project progress to follow. The consultation on the Wildlife Management Bill and proposed legislation for the control and licencing of grouse shooting and muirburn took place from October 2022 to December 2022 and is currently going through the Committee stage. This legislation will be key to progressing action in this Objective.

Name	A6 Gamebird management
Objective	Ensure that all pheasant and partridge shoots adhere to best practice and that all gamebird releases are sustainable and do not negatively impact on native biodiversity.
Target / Indicator	Target: Gamebird releases have no negative impact on native biodiversity. Indicator: Impacts of gamebirds released around the National Park each year.
Baseline 2022	 Number of gamebird releases to be established in 2023. Biodiversity indicators to be established in 2024.



Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Gamebird releases, collected every 5 years, Game and Wildlife Conservancy Trust. Biodiversity impacts, measured as per indicators established in 2024, repeated every 5 years.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	
Progress 2022 - 2023	Research has been commissioned to produce a methodology for capturing gamebird release data from land managers in the Park. Data will be collected during 2024.

Name	A7 Fire management
Objective	Ensure that all managed burning (muirburn) follows best practice as defined by the muirburn licensing scheme, supporting habitat restoration and recovery.
Target / Indicator	Target: Reduce wildfire risk by developing an integrated wildfire management plan for the National Park. Indicator: All muirburn will comply with regulations set out in the muirburn licensing scheme, including stopping burning on deep peatlands as defined by the licensing following Wildlife Management Bill regime.
Baseline 2022	Deep peat / blanket bog across the National Park to be mapped by 2026.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	 Integrated wildlife Management Plan in place by December 2024. Amount of muirburn on deep peat/ blanket bog mapped by 2026. Number of muirburn licences issued, the area they cover and any infringements NatureScot, timescale to be determined as per wildlife Management Bill.

Page **8** of **32**

Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	 Reports of wildfire incidents in National Park. Ranger reports of campfires and BBQs Impact of Muirburn licensing legislation, ad hoc by Park Authority staff
Progress 2022 - 2023	The consultation on the Wildlife Management Bill and proposed legislation for the control and licencing of grouse shooting and muirburn took place from October 2022 to December 2022 and is currently going through the Committee stage. This legislation will be key to progressing action in this Objective.

Name	A8 Farming
Objective	Work with farms in the National Park to reduce their carbon footprint, conserve soil carbon, encourage sustainable production and deliver increased biodiversity on in-bye land.
Target / Indicator	Target: Carbon and biodiversity plans are in place for farms across the National Park by 2028.
	Indicator: Target rural payments to support sustainable food production, reduce carbon, increase and maintain the health of habitats and ecosystems, enhance biodiversity and help connect different habitats across the National Park.
	Establish a Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework for the National Park by 2023.
Baseline 2022	 Percentage of farming units in the Cairngorms National Park with accredited carbon schemes to be established in 2023. Ha of land in Agri-Environment Climate Scheme (AECS) to be established in 2023. Number of farms with biodiversity audits to be established in 2023.
	 Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework established in 2022.



Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	 Ha of land under Agri-Environment Climate schemes, collated annual by Scottish Government Rural Payments Inspectorate Directive. Number of farms with biodiversity audits, NatureScot, annually. Farming units in accredited carbon schemes collected annually.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Progress of nature friendly farming projects and farm wildlife population trends, collected annually by Cairngorms Nature partners. Progression of Piloting an Outcomes Based Approach in Scotland and regionalised payments schemes, collected annually by Naturescot.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Currently being assessed.

Name	A9 Freshwater systems
Objective	Restore and connect rivers to thriving wetlands and floodplains as part of a wider restoration of the National Park's freshwater systems, helping mitigate the impacts of climate change.
Target / Indicator	Target: 70% of our rivers are in good ecological condition Good Ecological Condition by 2045, with ecological structure, function and productivity not deviating significantly from a near-natural system condition. Indicator: The Cairngorms Nature Index will establish a baseline and measure change in river naturalness. This is aligned with the Water Framework Directive and enhanced by indicators.
Baseline 2022	68% of rivers currently in Good Ecological Condition based on Water Framework Directive. Further detail to be added in 2023 based on Cairngorms Nature Index.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Cairngorms Nature Index indicators, repeated every 5 years, CNPA with data from Catchment Management Partnerships, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and NatureScot.

Page **10** of **32**

Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Progress of current and potential restoration projects sourced through annual reports from Catchment Management Partnerships and Cairngorms Nature partners.
Progress 2022 - 2023	The Freshwater model for the Cairngorms Nature Index has been completed and is under review by an expert advisory group. The Spey Catchment Initiative has become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation with increased capacity and organisational resilience to deliver landscape-scale projects. Catchment management Partnerships have drawn down approximately £300,000 of funding, primarily via the Nature Restoration Fund, for restoration in the Spey, Dee and South Esk catchments.

Name	A10 Ecological network
Objective	Connect habitats and ecosystems across all different types of land use in the National Park to create an ecological network, which will bring wider landscape, biodiversity and people benefits.
Target / Indicator	Establish a framework for an ecological network across the National Park by 2025.
Baseline 2022	No current baseline. To be established following identification of connectivity indicators in 2024.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Nature Networks framework with indicators of connectivity, established by March 2024 by the Park Authority. Cairngorms Nature Index measure of connectivity, to be established in 2024, repeated every 5 years.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Assessments of land manager interest, project progress and ambitions for habitat expansion, collated annually by the Park Authority. Landowner interest and uptake in 'call for sites', collated annually by the Park Authority.

Page **11** of **32**

Progress 2022 -	The Park Authority has been working closely with NatureScot in
2023	aligning thinking for Nature Networks and links with the 30 by 30
	commitment. Connectivity indicators for species, habitat and
	climate resilience will be ready during 2023.

Name	A11 Ecological restoration
Objective	Improve ecosystem functionality and resilience across the National Park by increasing the area of land managed principally for ecological restoration.
Target / Indicator	At least 50% of the National Park to be managed principally for ecosystem restoration by 2045 (see Nature objective A12 – Cairngorms Nature Index).
Baseline 2022	Accurate baseline to be established by October 2023.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	% of CNP managed principally for restoration, every 5 years, Cairngorms National Park Authority.
Monitoring Data - Qualitative (who collects, how often)	 Estate management statements reviewed and updated where necessary every 5 years by the Park Authority. Understanding of land manager ambitions, collected ad hoc by the Park Authority. Establishment and success of landscape-scale partnerships.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Work underway to establish baseline.

Name	A12 – Cairngorms Nature Index
Objective	Develop a more complete understanding of the National Park's species, habitats and ecosystems, and help monitor long-term progress through a dedicated Cairngorms Nature Index.
Target / Indicator	Develop and roll out the Cairngorms Nature Index by 2024.

Page **12** of **32**

Baseline 2022	CNI freshwater baseline established. Baseline for all six ecosystems scheduled for 2024
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Number of Cairngorms Nature Index ecosystems completed, CNPA, annually.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Progress towards establishing Cairngorms Atlas and Data Portal. Special Landscape Qualities mapping, NatureScot, every 5 years.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Work underway to establish baselines.

Name	A13 – Species recovery
Objective	Ensure species thrive in the National Park with key assemblages across the Cairngorms within the semi-natural landscape.
Target / Indicator	Target: Species Recovery Curve – priority species progress from research to developing solutions to sustainable management.
Baseline 2022	Of the 29 priority species: • 25 achieved and/or on track to meet recovery curve target; • 1 requires further effort to bring on track to meet recovery curve target; • 2 at high risk of not meeting recovery curve target; • 1 no data.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Progress along species recovery curve, annually as part of Cairngorms Nature Action Plan reporting cycle by the Cairngorms Nature Strategy Group. New Action Plan and reporting cycle under development, for publication 2024.

Page **13** of **32**

Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Updates on Priority Species projects, quarterly as part of Cairngorms Nature Action Plan reporting cycle by Cairngorms Nature Strategy Group. Updates on capercaillie emergency plan delivery and beaver reintroduction, annually CNPA.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Work underway to establish 2023 figures.

A14 – Green investment
Use private green investment in the National Park to fund nature's recovery and share the benefits between communities, landowners, workers and wider society.
Target: The Cairngorms National Park attracts an increasing amount of green finance per annum for projects that deliver multiple benefits (carbon, biodiversity, flood mitigation, community).
One green finance trial project underway. Ha of land registered for Peatland Code and Woodland Code as of March 2022 (to follow).
Ha of land registered for woodland and peatland codes, International Union for Conservation of Nature and woodland carbon code, annually.
Number of trials and projects supported by green investment delivering restoration and/ or community benefit, annually, Cairngorms National Park Authority.
Land manager ambitions, ad hoc, Cairngorms National Park Authority.
Progress on multiple natural capital metrics, annually, Cairngorms National Park Authority. Land sales.



Page **14** of **32**

Progress 2022 - 2023

The green finance trial established at Delnadamph has started restoration on site with Phase 1 of 5 completed and Phase 2 underway. The project is delivering peatland restoration and community benefit through a combination of 80% public and 20% private financing. The variation in public and private investment is heavily dependent on the price of the carbon market. Assessments are that for peatland restoration to be entirely privately funded the market price would need to rise from its current levels around £20 per unit, to approx £80 per unit. The trial has been very successful in demonstrating this model and that contributions from the public purse can reduce whilst 10% of the profits, can be realised for community benefit.



People

Name	B1 Working-age population
Objective	The proportion of young and working-age people in the National Park increases relative to the total resident population, which remains stable.
Target / Indicator	The proportion of young people and working-age people in the National Park relative to the total resident population increases between 2020 and 2045. The population stabilises between 2020 and 2045.
Baseline 2022	Baseline currently 2021 mid-year estimates from National Records Scotland: • Children (under 16 years): 14% • Working age (16 - 64): 60% • Pensionable Age (65 and over): 26%
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Mid-year estimates are published annually by National Records Scotland, but are usually 1 – 2 years in arrears for publication. 2022 figures will be based on the 2022 Scottish Census data. Data is collated by Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Work has started on LDP for 2026. Hospitality skills project started in Upper Deeside, partnering schools and business to develop young people and provide rewarding employment. Cairngorms Youth Action Team growing.

Name	B2 Wellbeing economy
------	----------------------

Page **16** of **32**

Objective	Develop a wellbeing economy that delivers social justice in a healthy ecosystem, drawing on the special natural and cultural
	qualities of the Cairngorms.
Target / Indicator	Develop Cairngorms Cornerstone Indicators and a Wellbeing Economy Action Plan by 2023.
Baseline 2022	Cornerstone indicators to be developed by Sept 2023.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Cairngorms Cornerstone indicators to be monitored annually by the Cairngorms National Park Authority. SG National indicators on wellbeing economy to be published 2023.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Cornerstone indicators incorporate qualitative elements and can be supplemented with other examples.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Cornerstone indicators developed. Wellbeing Economy Action Plan development slower than planned and requires work in late 2023.

Name	B3 Real Living Wage
Objective	Increase the number of Real Living Wage employers in the National Park.
Target / Indicator	The Park will have an increasing number of Real Living Wage employers and will aim to have the highest proportion in rural Scotland by 2030.
Baseline 2022	9 Real Living Wage accredited businesses in National Park 2022/2023.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Annual data on Real Living Wage accredited businesses from RLW Scotland.

Page **17** of **32**



Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Cairngorms Business Partnership member survey of Real Living Wage paying members 2023.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Real Living Wage employer accreditation data being collected. Grant to Cairngorms Business Partnership funded to undertake survey of members paying real living wage.

Name	B4 Skills and training
Objective	Increase skills and training opportunities for people in the National Park to meet business needs and ensure opportunities created by the growth in green jobs can be filled by residents and underrepresented groups.
Target / Indicator	There are an increasing number of apprenticeships within the National Park.
	An increasing number of people employed in green jobs such as peatland restoration, deer management etc.
Baseline 2022	Skills Development Scotland data on apprenticeships – data being processed.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Annual, Skills Development Scotland statistics.
Monitoring Data - Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case study examples of businesses or individuals / employees, ad hoc .
Progress 2022 - 2023	Skill Development Scotland data on apprenticeships being processed.



Page **18** of **32**

•	Countryside Learning Scotland building the rural skills youth
	work with schools and planning a green skills training and
	employment event for 2024.

Name	B5 Community assets and land
Objective	Increase the number of assets in community ownership or management, the number of social enterprises that generate a profit and the area of land where communities are involved in management decisions.
Target / Indicator	The numbers of assets in community ownership or management increases year on year from 2021.
Baseline 2022	In 2021 there were 71 assets in community ownership or management: https://cairngorms.co.uk/working-together/supporting-communities/community-owned-assets-map/.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Data to be updated in 2023 as part of the preparation of the next Local Development Plan. It will be monitored and updated annually by Park Authority.
Monitoring Data - Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case study examples.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Community Action Plans reviews underway in Dalwhinnie and Ballater as well as completed for Blair Atholl and Struan.

Name	B6 New approaches to citizen participation
Objective	Strengthen the participation structures that support planning and decision-making at a local level.
Target / Indicator	Review approaches to community participation and engagement in decision- making and develop an improvement plan by June 2023.

Page **19** of **32**

Baseline 2022	Qualitative description based on 2022.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies of participation, engagement and decision-making. Examples from Cairngorms 2030 Project.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Cairngorms 2030 project built wide engagement over a wide range of topics and involved 2000+ National Park residents.

Name	B7 Community-led planning and development
Objective	Communities have up- to-date community action plans and are supported by a community-led local development funding programme, delivering the National Park Partnership Plan.
Target / Indicator	All communities have community action plans in place that are no more than five years old. A new scheme is in place to deliver funding for communities, at least equivalent to the old LEADER programme.
Baseline 2022	2022 numbers available. 2022 funding.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Annual Cairngorms National Park Authority & Cairngorms Trust.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies.



Page **20** of **32**

de by Cairngorms
which around £260k
nity-led Vision fund
nity-

Name	B8 Gaelic language and culture
Objective	Encourage greater use of Gaelic in the National Park.
Target / Indicator	Increased opportunities for individuals and communities to engage with Gaelic language and culture.
Baseline 2022	Content of public sector Gaelic language plans.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	 Public sector Gaelic language plan reporting. Case studies of Gaelic language and interpretation projects.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 National Park Brand refresh incorporates strong use of Gaelic across all levels of use. VisitScotland are developing the National Gaelic Tourism Strategy.

Name	B8 Mental and physical health
Objective	Improve the mental and physical health and wellbeing of the people of the National Park through greater connection with nature and the outdoors.
Target / Indicator	There will be Green Health Referral programmes in place in all GP practices in the National Park.
Baseline 2022	3 Green Health Referrals since April 2023 (start of scheme).

Page **21** of **32**

	14 health walks active in 21/22.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Green Health Referrals, NHS, Annual. Health walks, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Annual.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies of impact, profile/popularity of groups. via NHS and Cairngorms National Park Authority.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 3 Green Health Referrals since April 2023 (start of scheme). 16 health walks active in 22/23.

Name	B10 A Park for All
Objective	There will be better opportunities for everyone to enjoy the National Park and the visitor profile will be more diverse, especially with regards to people who are disabled, from lower socio-economic backgrounds, LGBTQ+ and from minority and ethnic groups.
Target / Indicator	Visitors to the National Park will more closely resemble the overall demography of Scotland. Resident and visitor values and attitudes to key issues in the National Park are regularly evaluated.
Baseline 2022	According to the 2019 – 2020 visitor survey 2.4% of visitors to the National Park were of Black, Asian or minority ethnic groups, up from 1% in 2014 – 2015.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	The next National Park Visitor Survey will be carried out in 2024 / 2025 and reported by the National Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative	Case study examples of unrepresented groups coming to National Park or programmes to support them.

Page **22** of **32**

(who collects, how often)	CNPA & partners.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Park Authority partnering with Black Professionals Scotland Black Professionals Scotland - Include Collaborate Grow to improve diversity and inclusion in Park Authority work. National Park hosted two visits by Black Scottish Adventurers group Black Scottish Adventurers - This is Living! To increase awareness of opportunities to enjoy the Park. Park Authority funding Cairngorms Trust to commission project building a network of contacts within ethnic minority groups around National Park.

Name	B11 Volunteering and outdoor learning
Objective	Increase the number of volunteer days spent caring for the National Park, taking an inclusive approach to volunteering recruitment.
	Support and deliver opportunities for outdoor learning, linked to the special qualities of the National Park.
Target / Indicator	At least 200 volunteer rangers in the National Park by 2030. Increase the number of National Park volunteer days every year. An increase in the number of John Muir Awards undertaken within the National Park.
Baseline 2022	30 Volunteer Cairngorms 2022 (64 in 2023).JMA programme being reviewed in 2023.
Monitoring Data - Quantitative (who collects, how often)	 Number of volunteer rangers, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Annual Number of John Muir Award participants, Cairngorms National Park Authority & John Muir Trust, annual.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case study examples of volunteering.



Page **23** of **32**

Progress 2022 -	Doubled participants in Volunteer Cairngorms (64 in 2023).
2023	



Place

Name	C1 Access to housing
Objective	Ensure that there is sufficient affordable housing stock to enable people to live and work within the National Park.
Target / Indicator	A maximum of 15% of all housing stock in the National Park will be second homes, vacant or short-term let properties by 2040.
Baseline 2022	Household estimates based on council tax data for 2021: • Total dwellings: 10,283 • Occupied: 8,643 (84%) • Second homes: 1,118 (11%) • Vacant: 522 (5%) • Ineffective stock (second homes and vacant): 1,640 (16%) Data on short-term lets not available until after licencing deadline passes on 1 October 2023.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Household estimates are published annually by National Records Scotland, but are usually 1 – 2 years in arrears for publication. Data on short-term lets will be derived from licencing data. The deadline for all existing short-term lets is 1 October 2023. A baseline will therefore not be available until that date has passed. Data will be collated by Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies where appropriate.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Local Authorities implementing short-term let licencing system. Highland Council progressing short-term let control area for Badenoch and Strathspey. Cairngorms Business Partnership investigating a larger scale housing project in partnership with Communities Housing Trust.

Page **25** of **32**

Name	C2 New housing
Objective	Deliver new housing in the National Park and ensure as much as possible is secured for key workers and / or to resolve affordability issues.
Target / Indicator	By 2030, 75% of new housing is for social rental, mid-market rental or other affordable categories that provide affordability in perpetuity.
Baseline 2022	 Housing completions in the Cairngorms National Park Housing completions over the last 5 years: 412 Completion in 2022: 132 In 2022 thirty-nine planning applications were given consent for housing, with a net gain in the following tenure types: Market housing: 49 Affordable housing (various tenures): 10 Note, all consents that do no not provide on-site affordable housing are required to make a financial contribution towards affordable housing.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Completion data is collected annually by local authorities and compiled to give an overall figure for the National Park by the Park Authority. Data for 2023 will be available May / June 2024. Planning application data is monitored annually by the Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies of completed projects.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Affordable housing projects for Highland Council and partners in construction at Carrbridge, Dulnain Bridge, Kincraig and Kingussie. Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust Affordable Housing Project in Tomintoul completed and occupied.

Page **26** of **32**

Name	C3 Housing and community benefit
Objective	Work with communities to ensure that the majority of land allocated for development around villages and towns in the National Park is controlled by communities or public bodies to help manage long-term development needs.
Target / Indicator	The percentage of developable land in community or public body ownership is increasing.
Baseline 2022	1% of land allocated in the Local Development Plan with capacity left to build is in community or public body ownership.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Data is collected annually by Park Authority as part of Local Development Plan monitoring.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	
Progress 2022 - 2023	No new changes in land ownership/control recorded.

Name	C4 Village and town centres
Objective	Ensure villages and town centres in the National Park are thriving places where people live, shop and meet.
Target / Indicator	An increasing number of 20-minute neighbourhoods (or rural equivalent).
	The percentage of vacant commercial properties on high streets of the National Park reduces.

Page **27** of **32**

Baseline 2022	20-minute neighbourhoods are being defined as part of the preparation of the Local Development Plan and will be available in 2024. Town Centre health checks have not been carried out since 2018 but are scheduled for August 2023. According to the 2018 check, the vacancy rates within town centre boundaries identified in the Local Development Plan were: • Aviemore: 4% • Ballater: 7% • Grantown-on-Spey: 10% • Kingussie: 23% • Newtonmore: 20% The town centre health check report also contains a qualitative analysis: https://cairngorms.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CD014-Economic-Development-Evidence-Report.pdf
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Definition of 20-minute neighbourhoods will be published in the Local Development Plan Evidence Report in 2024. Change in characteristics will be measured annually by Park Authority. Town centre health checks to be carried out biannually by Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Town centre health checks to be carried out biannually by Park Authority.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Town centre health checks completed late August 2023.

Name	C5 Visitors to the National Park
Objective	Work to stabilise visitor numbers in the peak season, focusing growth on quieter months and on those areas that have the infrastructure and capacity to manage for additional visitors.

Page **28** of **32**

	Maximise the economic and community benefit of tourism by encouraging longer stays, while maintaining existing high levels of visitor satisfaction.
Target / Indicator	 Growth in visitor numbers is concentrated at off-peak times of year and in areas with capacity. Length of visitor stays increase. Visitor satisfaction levels remain high.
Baseline 2022	2019 / 2020 Visitor survey.STEAM data.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	The next National Park Visitor Survey will be carried out in 2024 / 2025 and reported by the National Park Authority. STEAM data is published annually,
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	The next National Park Visitor Survey will be carried out in 2024/2025 and reported by the National Park Authority.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Developing methodology for future Visitor Surveys Exploring use of mobile phone GPS tacking data to provide supplementary information on visitor locations and numbers

Name	C5 A sustainable destination
Objective	Secure the National Park's reputation as an international exemplar in sustainable tourism and the management of protected areas.
Target / Indicator	The National Park continues to be accredited with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and the Glasgow Declaration (Climate Action in Tourism).
Baseline 2022	The Cairngorms National Park is currently accredited with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and the Glasgow Declaration (Climate Action in Tourism).



Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	The Park Authority submitted a report to Europarc in December 2022.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	The Park Authority submitted a report to Europarc in December 2022. It will need to reapply in 2027.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Sustainable Tourism Action Plan approved by Park Authority Board <u>Tourism Action Plan (cairngorms.co.uk)</u>. National Park has re-applied for Europarc Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

Name	C7 Transport to and around the Park
Objective	Promote a modal shift towards sustainable and active travel in the way visitors and commuters get to, and everyone moves around, the National Park.
Target / Indicator	 20% of current journeys by visitors, commuters and residents within the National Park do not take place by car by 2030. Increase active travel and public transport usage within the National Park. 25% of visitors get to the National Park by public transport by 2045. E-bike and adapted bike hire and charging facilities will be available in all main settlements and major visitor hubs by 2030. Key public transport options will have capacity for people to bring bikes to the National Park by 2030.
Baseline 2022	 Park wide visitors survey 19/20 for visitors. Cairngorms 2030 project building evidence on residents. Traffic counter data.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative	Traffic counter data, Councils & Cairngorms National Park Authority, annually.

Page **30** of **32**

(who collects, how often)	Rail use stats, Scotrail, annually. Stagecoach & Regional Transport Partnership data on bus use,
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies where appropriate.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Cairngorms 2030 projects will build data on uses. Stagecoach piloted a new Aviemore to Cairngorm bus service through Glenmore with bike-carrying capacity in summer 2023.

Name	C8 Accessible path and cycle network
Objective	Improve path, cycle and outdoor access networks to give outstanding opportunities to experience the natural and cultural heritage of the National Park to the widest range of people, while minimising disturbance to vulnerable species, habitats and sites.
Target / Indicator	Increase the number of km of safe and inclusive off-road or segregated on-road routes between communities by 2030. All core paths are in good condition and accessible to the widest possible range of users.
Baseline 2022	Baseline being set 2023.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Active Cairngorms reporting on path network condition, annual, Cairngorms National Park Authority. Length of new path construction, annual, Cairngorms National Park Authority.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies of projects.
Progress 2022 - 2023	More than 10km of new or upgraded paths created in 2022/23 (Deeside Way, Anagach Woods Speyside Way and Kincraig community path).

Page **31** of **32**

Name	C9 High-quality visitor experience
Objective	Welcome visitors and provide a high-quality experience while managing their impacts through providing better infrastructure and high-quality ranger services.
Target / Indicator	Number of public toilets within the National Park is maintained. Increased public toilet facilities for people of with additional needs. Number of managed facilities for campervans increases. Visitor satisfaction levels remain high. Number of rangers employed within the National Park is stable or increasing.
Baseline 2022	Annual survey/review.
Monitoring Data - Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Number of public toilets available. Number of motorhome facilities available. Number of rangers employed by Cairngorms National Park Authority. Numbers of partner ranger services supported.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Visitor satisfaction – visitor survey as in C5. Residents' surveys by Cairngorms National Park Authority.
Progress 2022 - 2023	Numbers of Rangers employed by CNPA remains stable but volunteer rangers numbers have doubled to 2023.

Name	C10 Cultural heritage
Objective	Safeguard and promote the Park's cultural heritage and provide opportunities for everyone to experience and learn about the National Park's outstanding historic environment, history and culture.
Target / Indicator	A Cairngorms cultural heritage network is established and flourishing.

Page **32** of **32**

	An increasing number of community-led cultural heritage projects delivered.
Baseline 2022	Baseline linked to community project register.
Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Annual reporting. Record HH & Cairngorms Trust community grants for heritage projects.
Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	 Case studies of community-led heritage projects. Reports on development of cultural heritage network.
Progress 2022 - 2023	 Contract to develop a cultural heritage network proposal will be commissioned by Park Authority in late 2023. Cateran Ecomuseum awarded Heritage Lottery Fund support to the museum of rapid transition project Help Us Deliver The Next Phase Of Our Museum Of Rapid Transition programme - Cateran Ecomuseum in 2023 and 2024.