

AGENDA ITEM 4

EXTRACTS FROM 'A DRAFT PLAN FOR THE FUTURE: PRIORITIES FOR ACTION 2007-2012' (NATIONAL PARK PLAN – CONSULTATIVE DRAFT)

The attached papers are copies of relevant sections of the Draft National Park Plan 'Priorities for Action 2007-2012' – the full documents have already been sent to forum members. They refer to three of the seven priorities for action:

- Conserving and enhancing the Park's biodiversity and landscapes
- Developing sustainable deer management
- Supporting integrated land management

Background

These proposed priorities for action are currently the subject of a public consultation on the Draft National Park Plan as a whole, which was launched on the 11 April and will continue until 30 June 2006.

Set in the context of the long-term vision and objectives set out in 'Looking to 2030', their purpose is to identify the priorities around which the effort and resources of the public sector and its private, community and voluntary sector partners should focus – to ensure that those areas where there is a particular need or opportunity in the next five years are addressed.

Consultation

As well as seeking views on the long-term vision and direction set out in the draft plan, the consultation is asking two particular questions on the priorities for action:

- Are these the right priorities to tackle in the next five years?
- If so, what should we collectively expect to achieve by 2012?

CNPA expects the outline action programmes set out in the consultative draft to be more fully developed for inclusion in the final draft plan, informed by discussions during the consultation. In parallel with the public consultation, CNPA is working with the partners involved to develop and refine the priorities, to develop clearer thinking on the outcomes – what is it that we collectively expect to be different after 5 years – and flowing from that, a coherent set of actions to be taken.

This process will continue after the consultation period to develop the final plan, which is due to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval at the end of the year.