

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

FOR DECISION

Title: Approval of Development Plan Scheme 2015/16

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Purpose of Report

To ask the Planning Committee to consider and approve the Local Development Plan Scheme for 2015/16, and associated Newsletter.

Summary

All Planning Authorities in Scotland are required to produce an annually updated Development Plan Scheme (DPS), setting out how they are progressing work to adopt and review their Local Development Plan (LDP). The document is intended to set out the timetable of work for the next steps in the process, and highlight key stages in the process when people can become engaged in the development of the Plan. This will be the seventh DPS prepared by the Cairngorms National Park Authority and officers propose some small changes in the format to make it more engaging and informative.

Recommendation

That the Planning Committee approve publication of the Local Development Plan Newsletter with Development Plan Scheme.

APPROVAL OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 2015/16

Background

1. All Planning Authorities in Scotland are required to produce an annually updated Development Plan Scheme (DPS), setting out how they are progressing work to adopt and review their Local Development Plan (LDP). The document is intended to set out the timetable of work for the next steps in the process, and highlight key stages in the process when people can become engaged in the development of the Plan. This will be the seventh DPS prepared by the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA).

Changes to the DPS

2. While the DPS is a formal requirement of the development planning process, the exact form it should take is not prescribed and planning authorities are increasingly trying to present the information in simpler and more engaging ways. For this seventh DPS, that coincides with the adoption of a new LDP and start of the process to prepare the next LDP, officers propose presenting the DPS in the form of a newsletter that provides a little more information than previous DPS' and is in a lighter form for the public. The proposed LDP Newsletter that includes the DPS is contained in Appendix 1.
3. The CNPA successfully met the timetable of its previous DPS until the last stages of the LDP process following the Examination Report. At that point, the loss of staff from the Development Plan team and the process of making modifications to the Plan meant that our timetable slipped from November to December (though still within the time period specified by the Scottish Government for this stage) and was further delayed by Scottish Minister's extended period for consideration of the Plan.
4. The timetable for preparation of the next LDP looks to adoption of the next Plan by 2020 and follows the preparation of the National Park Partnership Plan in 2017.

Next Steps

5. The Local Development Plan Newsletter with Development Plan Scheme will be published on the CNPA website, and sent to the 5 local authorities and Community Councils, Planning Representatives Network and Developers Forum. Thereafter, progress and any feedback will be monitored during the coming year. It will be revised and updated again in April 2016.

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Appendices:

1. Proposed Local Development Plan Newsletter with Development Plan Scheme, 2015/16