

# CAIRNGORMS LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

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**Paper Title:** Format of CLOAF 2018 and beyond

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**Purpose:** To seek the views of members over proposals to change the format of CLOAF administration and meetings to ensure ongoing effectiveness.

## Advice Sought

Further feedback on our proposals to amend the working practice of CLOAF Advisory Forum discussed at the previous meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

## Background

- At the last meeting we outlined and discussed the role of the CLOAF and agreed the following proposals aimed at ensuring the continued effective and efficient function of the Forum as the CNPA access authority matures:
  - a. Set membership at 12 as recommended in SNH guidance on Access Forums
  - b. Appoint a new chair at the Autumn 2018
  - c. Appoint three new members with experience and interest in land management to replace three vacancies
  - d. Confirm two current members who are at the end of their 3 year period wish to remain
  - e. Hold one meeting annually in Autumn to review outdoor access developments and challenges throughout the year and discuss Scottish Outdoor Access Code communication priorities for the year ahead
  - f. Develop a membership page on CNPA website that updates members on our role as the access authority and seeks comment and advice when required
  - g. Call additional meetings as and when required to advise CNPA (urgent S14 access obstruction issues and selected strategic policy developments).
  - h. CLOAF may also convene meetings according to specific circumstances (with agreement from CNPA as secretariat).
  - i. Operating procedures will be modified to account for the proposed changes

## Further discussion

Following the CNPA Board objection to the recent A9 Dualling proposals, due to poor NMU provision linking Aviemore and Carrbridge and the support from CLOAF we have reviewed the proposals outlined above and on the basis of ensuring we retain sufficient regularity of meetings to cater for issues such as the A9 going forward we are proposing the following amendments:-

1. Maintain the current two meetings per year schedule (Spring and Autumn) with the focus for the spring being a site visit to look at current access issues and the year ahead, and autumn being a review of year.
2. The appointment of new members has slipped due to deliberations surrounding the meeting format therefore appointment of new members but will begin in early 2019.
3. Create new *Knowledge Hub* site using online platform to allow CNPA to publish meeting papers and CLOAF members to communicate and collaborate on access issues.

### **Other related matters**

Whilst further considering the future of CLOAF we wish to take the opportunity to formally thank three members leaving the forum after serving two full terms.

Our sincere thanks therefore go to the following members for their commitment and support in helping deliver responsible outdoor access in Cairngorms National Park along with their valued wide ranging of contribution towards policy, casework and access rights throughout the six years of their membership

- Eric Baird (chair)
- Ruairidh Ormiston (community)
- Nick Cole (community)

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