
CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

FOR DECISION

Title: CAIRNGORM AND GLENMORE PARTNERSHIP

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Purpose

To update members on the agreement of a partnership between public bodies for the strategic management of publicly owned land at Cairngorm Estate and Glenmore Forest Park.

Strategic Context

1. Cairngorm Mountain and Glenmore Forest Park are, together with neighbouring land holdings, an iconic visitor destination at the core of the identity of the Cairngorms National Park.
2. The National Park Partnership Plan 2012-17 identifies the need to develop a refreshed strategy for the Cairngorm, Rothiemurchus and Glenmore area, given its importance for nature conservation, visitor experience and economic development.
3. This area is highly designated for international conservation value, it attracts around 1.4M visits per annum and is a driver of the tourism economy in Aviemore, Badenoch and Strathspey and the wider National Park.
4. The strategy for the area is being taken forward through partners in the Cairngorm, Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Group (CRAGG) which brings together land owners, local business, community representatives and public bodies. Within this area, the neighbouring land holdings of the Cairngorm Estate and the Glenmore Forest Park are in public ownership. This means there is a particular opportunity and responsibility for the relevant public bodies to join-up in a coherent and long term approach to getting the best for and from this area. In doing so, we can work in a co-ordinated way with neighbouring land holdings, businesses and communities.
5. CNPA, HIE, FCS, SNH and The Highland Council have now agreed to establish a partnership to co-ordinate strategic management of publicly owned land at the Cairngorm Estate and Glenmore Forest Park to deliver:
 - a) An exceptionally high quality natural environment;
 - b) A world-class visitor experience;
 - c) An economic asset contributing to the economy of the National Park and Scotland;

- d) Engaged business and community stakeholders;
 - e) Efficient and effective public service delivery.
6. The partnership will agree and collaborate to deliver a long term vision and masterplan, aligning investment, development plans and enhancement of the visitor experience, conservation and economic opportunities.
7. CNPA and FCS are currently well advanced with a masterplan for the Glenmore Forest Park. With the involvement of HIE and the new operating company at Cairngorm Mountain, this masterplan will shortly be extended to the Cairngorm Estate as well, resulting in a co-ordinated masterplan for long term development and management of the publicly owned land.

Recommendations

8. **That Members endorse the partnership agreement.**

Implications

9. The partnership does not change the responsibilities of individual organisations either as land owners or partners with statutory roles, but does commit partners to joint strategic and business planning for Cairngorm and Glenmore.
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Supporting Information

10. The Partnership agreement is at Annex I.

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