

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY FINANCE COMMITTEE

FOR DECISION

Title: CNP ESTATES SURVEY 2013

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Purpose

To seek approval from the finance committee to fund CNPA's contribution to a survey of Estate Management across the CNP carried out in partnership with Scottish Land and Estates.

Recommendations

The Finance Committee approves the funding of **£26,038** including VAT for the Estates Survey from the 2013/14 Land Management and Conservation Programme budget.

Executive Summary

Full details of the proposed survey work are contained in the Project Brief (Annex 2) and are also summarised in the EJP (Annex 1).

In summary, this project seeks to obtain a better understanding of the contribution that land owners and managers make to the economy, environment and social fabric of Scotland in the first part and in the second part, the Cairngorms National Park.

Our objectives for the CNP survey are:

- a) To obtain detailed information on current land management practices in order to:
 - i. provide comparisons with previous surveys undertaken in the National Park area (1999-2003)
 - ii. demonstrate the role of land owners and managers in delivering the National Park Plan and providing economic, social and environmental benefits
 - iii. highlight the benefits to the economy, environment and people of Scotland
 - iv. identify opportunities to progress specific actions in the National Park Plan
- b) To gain an insight into future aspirations for land use in the National Park in order to:
 - i. guide future land management support
 - ii. assist in preparing land managers to make the most of future opportunities
- c) To provide CNPA with an up-to-date contact database for communicating more efficiently with land owners and managers in the National Park.

We would like to receive:

- a) Quantitative and qualitative data on the direct, indirect and induced economic impacts of landowners, including estimates of the contribution to the regional economy in terms of GVA and employment.
- b) An overview of the activity undertaken by landowners including, but not limited to: in-hand farming, let farms, forestry, renewable energy, sporting activities, residential housing, commercial property, tourism and leisure, outdoor recreation and access, equine businesses and events. Including income and expenditure, investment, government support and future plans.
- c) An overview of the support that landowners provide to local communities and localised economies through tourism, employment and support for community projects etc.
- d) An overview of the management processes and engagement with communities.
- e) An overview of the environmental public goods delivered by landowners together with an assessment of where and how this delivery could be enhanced.
- f) An overview of the future management, economic and environmental aspirations of landowners to explore what estates would like to do and what might be hindering progress.
- g) An insight into opportunities for collaborative work.

Whereas the national survey will be based upon a sampling methodology, with the output being broad economic contribution figures, the Cairngorms survey should aim for as close to 100% coverage as possible and also include analysis of the social and environmental contribution and future objectives of estates.

The survey brief has gone out to tender and 5 were received. The figure £26,038 represents the best value for money and the best chance of a successfully completed project, conducted by a consortium of experts from arrange of fields.

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