

---

## CAIRNGORMS LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

---

**Title:** Active Cairngorms

**Prepared by:** David Clyne, Recreation and Access Manager

**Purpose:** To update the Forum on our work in developing Active Cairngorms and seek feedback before undertaking a 12 week consultation on the draft strategy from January 2015.

### Advice Sought

- I. Members are informed that CNPA has developed a revised outdoor access strategy for the Cairngorms National Park. We are seeking general comments and specific feedback on the proposed consultation questions:
  - a. Is the overall aim of encouraging residents and visitors to be active outdoors every day an appropriate ambition for Active Cairngorms?
  - b. Are the priorities identified in the three strategic themes the best focus for activity to deliver Active Cairngorms?
  - c. Does Active Cairngorms contain the right policies to promote and manage outdoor access in the National Park?
  - d. Will the Action Plan deliver the strategy, and what can you or your organisation contribute to the Action Plan?
  - e. Will the monitoring framework provide a clear indication of the ongoing effectiveness of the strategy?
  - f. Ranger Services across the National Park are a key partner in supporting the delivery of Active Cairngorms, is the current provision of rangers best placed to help deliver the strategy?

## Strategic Context

2. Renewal of the Outdoor Access Strategy is identified in the National Park Partnership Plan and is a key means to deliver many of the plan's programmes, particularly outcome three: People enjoying the Park, but also integral to delivering conservation management and economic development
3. This work has been developed in parallel with work on the Capercaillie Framework and this is reflected in the strategy.

## Summary of Work to Date

4. The Forum was consulted on the proposed structure of Active Cairngorms at the meeting held in Ballater on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014.
5. Since May 2014 we have met with a wide range of partners listed in Annex I to develop the draft. These discussions have produced an overall aim of encouraging residents and visitors to use the National Park for physical activity once a day: '*outdoors active everyday*'
6. Discussions identified three strategic themes for activity required to deliver this overall aim:-
  - i. Active Places – designing places that encourage activity
  - ii. Active Management – best practice in recreation management
  - iii. Active Promotion – promoting healthy lifestyles
7. With partners we have developed a draft Action Plan of priority work based around these themes together with a monitoring framework to indicate progress in delivery of the strategy.
8. We have also revised and simplified the Outdoor Access Policies developed in the first strategy.
9. Finally, we have summarised the work undertaken delivering the first strategy and presented it in three easy to read 'infographics'.

## Consultation

10. The draft strategy will be presented to the CNPA Board on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014 for general comment and approval to undertake a 12 week public consultation from mid January 2015.
11. During the consultation period we will formally consult on Active Cairngorms via our website. This will be promoted using our contacts and through social media including the Active Cairngorms Twitter account. Hard copy reports will be available on request.
12. We will consult directly with other advisory forums including Inclusive Cairngorms, Land Management Forum and the Tourism Forum.
13. We have also identified three key strategic partners key to the delivery of Active Cairngorms that merit further direct engagement during the consultation:-
  - i. Scottish Government
  - ii. National Health Service
  - iii. Sportscotland
14. The final strategy will be produced and presented to the Forum and CNPA Board for approval by May 2015.

**David Clyne**  
**Recreation and Access Manager**  
[davidclyne@cairngorms.co.uk](mailto:davidclyne@cairngorms.co.uk)

## Appendix I: Consultation meetings held to date

The following organisations were consulted during the preparation of the draft Active Cairngorms report.

1. Cairngorms Local Access Forum
2. Cycling Scotland
3. Forestry Commission Scotland
4. Highland Council
5. Highlife Highland
6. HITRANS
7. Inclusive Cairngorms
8. NESTRANS
9. NHS Grampian
10. NHS Highland
11. Paths for All
12. Ranger Services:  
Meetings with:  
Cairngorm Mountain  
Aberdeenshire  
Highland Council  
Rothiemurchus Estate  
Balmoral Estate  
Emails sent to all other Ranger Services.
13. Scottish Government
14. Sport Scotland
15. Strathspey Railway
16. SUSTRANS
17. TACTRANS
18. Voluntary Action Badenoch & Strathspey