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# CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

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## FOR DECISION

**Title:** DESIGN AND PLACEMAKING NON-STATUTORY GUIDANCE

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### Recommendation

That the Planning Committee Draft Design and Placemaking Non-Statutory Guidance to support the LDP (2021) approve for consultation.

### Background

1. The Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan was adopted on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The CNPA had prepared seven pieces of Non-statutory Guidance that were adopted to support it. The Non-Statutory guidance that has been adopted is a follows:
  - a) Supporting Economic Growth Non-Statutory Guidance
  - b) Natural Heritage Non-Statutory Guidance
  - c) Landscape Non-Statutory Guidance
  - d) Renewable Non-Statutory Guidance
  - e) Open Space, Sport and Recreation Non-Statutory Guidance
  - f) Cultural Heritage Non-Statutory Guidance
  - g) Resources Non-Statutory Guidance
2. Supplementary guidance and non-statutory guidance supporting the LDP needs to undergo the process of public consultation but unlike the Proposed LDP is not subject to examination. Furthermore, unlike Supplementary Guidance, non-statutory guidance does not need to be sent to Scottish Ministers for review.
3. The following pieces of guidance from the previous LDP (2015) remain in place to provide support in reference to housing, design and placemaking and developer contributions:
  - a) New Housing Development Non-Statutory Guidance
  - b) Sustainable Design Non-Statutory Guidance
  - c) Developer Contributions Non-Statutory Guidance

4. It is intended that the draft Design and Placemaking Non-statutory Guidance put before you to approve for consultation will replace the 2015 Sustainable Design Non-statutory Guidance and be used to support Policy 3 of current LDP (2021). A full copy of the draft guidance for consultation is provided in Appendix I.

### **Design and Placemaking Non-statutory Guidance**

5. This non-statutory guidance will support Policy 3 of the Local Development Plan, which provides the framework for how good design and placemaking principles should be applied in development proposals.
6. Policy 3 has undergone numerous changes since its previous iteration in the 2015 plan. In particular is the addition of Policy 3.1 which aligns the Plan with Scottish Planning Policy by requiring proposals to meet the six qualities of successful places, namely that developments be:
  - i. distinctive;
  - ii. safe and pleasant;
  - iii. easy to move around;
  - iv. welcoming;
  - v. adaptable; and.
  - vi. resource efficient.
7. The new non-statutory guidance therefore contains information to aid in the interpretation of this policy. The guidance also takes a much more visual approach to explaining design and placemaking concepts.

### **Next Steps**

8. It is proposed that the Draft Non-Supplementary Guidance be published for a six week period of public consultation. The consultation will be publicised on the CNPA's website and social media platforms. All consultation comments will be summarised and used to inform the final non-statutory guidance.
9. The consultation comments and a proposed final non-statutory guidance will be reported back to the Planning Committee for adoption. Once adopted, the guidance will support the LDP (2021) and will be a material consideration for the future planning applications. It is anticipated that the proposed non-statutory guidance will be reported back to the Board for approval in later in 2021.

**Dan Harris and Nasim Mehrabi**

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### **Appendices:**

- I. Draft Design and Placemaking Non-statutory Guidance