



EAP Meeting

**Held virtually on Tuesday 28th May 2024 – 5.30pm –
6.30pm**

Present:

Anita Howard
Fiona McNally (CNPA)
Fiona McLean (CNPA)
Hannah Grist (Chair)
Heather Earnshaw
Kate Christie (CNPA)
Katherine Willing (CNPA)
Kevin Hutchens
Liliana Corrieri
Lina Payne
Linda Bamford
Micah Daigeaun
Keith Turner

Apologies:

Becca Mayo
Kate Dowding
Mariana Yarnold
Marisa
Shreoshi Das
Stuart Hall
Vanessa Altweck

1. Item one: Welcome

- Hannah welcomed the group to the meeting.
- Hannah outlined the plan for the meeting.

2. Item two: Review of Minutes of April 2024 Meeting

- The minutes from February were agreed.
- An update was asked for regarding the action to speak with the Scottish Youth Hostel Association. It was agreed to keep this an action.



- Hannah thanked Kate for creating and circulating the working together agreement and asked for any panel feedback. It was agreed that a sentence should be added under the purpose section to say “our asks clearly demonstrate that they will add value and progression to our aims and objectives.”. It was also agreed that under the equity section it should read the power that we each hold as opposed to the power that we each have.

- 3. Item three: Resident Survey – Fiona McNally, Rural Development and Communities Manager
 - Fiona acknowledged that the approach to receiving feedback on the visitors’ survey from the Equality Advisory Panel had not worked. Fiona explained that for this session the approach had been changed to ensure the meeting was more effective. Fiona explained that both the visitor survey and the residents survey are part of the same contract, so any feedback given on the visitor survey was also applied to the residents’ survey. Fiona explained that the version of the survey given to the panel has already been through the senior management team and CNPA’s monitoring and evaluation officer. The survey will be asked every second summer for the next six years to gather and track trends over that time period.
 - It was agreed that a SharePoint link would be sent out to the panel members to submit any wording, grammatical corrections or suggestions that there was not enough time to discuss.
 - The panel was asked if they had any questions or comments on how the questionnaire would work. The panel suggested the following
 - The main way to distribute the survey was through a QR code in the Cairn Magazine, key communities and hubs across the National Park and through a social media campaign. The panel suggested that a QR code and digital questionnaire may not be accessible for everyone and therefore valuable opinions may be missed. Suggestions on how to fix this included having an option for a family friend or neighbour to take it on your behalf, having a number to ring or attending in-person events such as livestock events. Fiona reiterated that this is the format suggested by the consultants as the website can be read with a screen reader and that it would be reviewed for the next time the survey went out in two years as to how effective it had been. The panel felt that accessibility should be considered at the beginning of the project.



- The panel felt that the questions provided lacked questions which collected the demographics of the sample population. Fiona explained that the questions exploring demographics would look very similar to the visitor survey which the panel have previously been consulted on. The panel explained there are specific groups who share characteristics that are underrepresented in survey responses, the panel advised that there should be a plan to address this. Fiona explained that the team have been working with a variety of people, such as, Talat Yaqoob to reach out to BAME groups, LGBT Youth Scotland to reach out to LGBT young people and groups such as paddle with pride. It was also asked whether young people such as school children would be included. Fiona explained that the internal equalities group had suggested 16 and over to help understand travel and work.
- The panel suggested adding context to some questions, such as those surrounding Cairngorms 2030.
- It was asked whether there had been any cross over with the Scottish household survey. Fiona explained that some key questions had been included.
- The panel suggested including some qualitative questions as they felt the questions were heavily concentrated on quantitative questions.
- The panel were then asked if they had any comments or questions about the questionnaire sections or the questions used. The panel suggested the following.
 - The panel felt the survey did not mention physical access to the park or how accessible people with mobility issues or people who use pushchairs found the park.
 - The panel suggested the survey lacked questions surrounding affordability of consumer goods and social opportunities.
 - The panel welcomed that the survey included reference to farmers but felt that it should also consider other entrepreneurs who operate in the park.
 - The panel suggested that questions that reference transport should align with the transport hierarchy.
 - The panel suggested that some questions and potential responses needed more context. This was particularly focused on question B1 on page 8.



- The panel felt that there were no questions asking about health care or education. Fiona explained that this is not within the remit of National Park Authority and therefore, it was felt more appropriate to not include it.
 - There was a discussion about whether the results of the visitor survey would impact what was charged for the visitor levy. Fiona explained that the levy was being consulted with other organisations, but a question will be included on the survey as to how much that might be which can be used to discuss with other organisations.
 - Kate clarified the CNPA's position on the equalities monitoring questions surrounding sex and gender which was previously discussed at the February meeting. There were differing opinions, so CNPA sought legal advice. The questions on both the visitor survey and the residents survey will now ask, what is your sex, what is your gender and what is your sexual orientation? These are open ended without a drop box of options.
 - It was agreed that any suggestions of changes should be sent to Kate to forward onto Fiona as soon as possible.
 - It was agreed that draft three of the questions would be brought back to the panel.
4. AOBs
- It was asked whether there were any initial thoughts on the census figures. CNPA staff explained that it usually takes approximately six months figures related to the Cairngorms National Park to become available.

End of meeting

Next meeting 25 June 2024