

CAIRNGORMS
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
ÙGHDARRAS PÀIRC NÀISEANTA A'
MHONÀIDH RUÀIDH

Cairngorms Equality Advisory Panel

30th November 2021

5:00pm – 6:30pm - Held virtually

Minutes

Present

Anita Howard	Bo Hickey
Heather Earnshaw	Kevin Hutchens
Linda Bamford	Stuart Hall
Vanessa Altweck	

Attending

Fiona McLean	Grant Moir
Kate Christie	Katherine Willing
Vicky Walker	

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Group were welcomed to the meeting.
- 1.2. The minutes and action log from the previous meeting were agreed.

2. National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP)

- 2.1. To avoid a conflict of interest Fiona Mclean left the meeting and Kate Christie chaired the remainder of the meeting. As the EAP is a consultee this section of the meeting was conducted with little input from CNPA staff. The meeting was passed over to the member of the panel coordinating the response to give an update on progress.
- 2.2. An update on the response was given, and a reminder of the deadline was given which indicated a limited timeframe to complete additional work. The panel were asked their opinion on the changes to the draft, if any gaps remained and if there should be anything added back in that had previously been removed.
- 2.3. The panel identified the following gaps;
 - Summary of key high level points
 - Sign Posting to existing strategies and legislative targets
 - Need for a reporting system on the condition of paths
 - Low Income Holiday Options

- Highlighting where the park has done well
- 2.4. The panel suggested making more use of appendices to help where information is complex and reduce the length of response.
 - 2.5. The panel would like the response to be released in an easy read format to ensure that it is accessible.
 - 2.6. The panel were reminded that this is a strategic management document and some suggestions were more focused on unique strategy. Therefore, the panel were advised to stick to broad key points that could then be used later to create more specific strategy documents. The panel questioned whether this was part of their remit or the responsibility of the reader, however, it was agreed that the table at the top would be strengthened to help align to this.
 - 2.7. The panel asked for assurance that they were informed of what was to be included from their consultation response and that they would be informed of the reasoning where elements are not included. It was agreed that the Head of Planning would attend a meeting following the consultation to discuss this with the panel.
 - 2.8. It was agreed that the panel would be able to view and comment on the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) that reviewed the process of the consultation.
 - 2.9. It was agreed that the panel member who wrote the draft would make the amendments discussed and then submit this as the final version.

3. Any Other Business

- 3.1. Scottish Youth Hostel Association (SYHA) – A member of the panel asked if it would be possible to have them attend a meeting in future to discuss their work.
- 3.2. Sensory Displays – A member suggested that it would be good to see how sensory displays could be incorporated in the National Park.
- 3.3. Equality Monitoring Questions – It was raised by a member of the panel that the equality monitoring questions in the NPPP were not inclusive, the Panel wanted to know if there was a way to feedback on this as opposed to the main partnership plan consultation itself. It was agreed that this would be passed onto the Head of Communications and the Head of Planning as they are organising the consultation.
- 3.4. Advising on Projects Taking Place in the Park – A panel member raised if we were able to consult on projects within the park that were not related to the work of the Park Authority. The panel was happy to do this but only if there was capacity. The panel were asked to direct any requests for consultation to Vicky and Kate who will check whether the request is appropriate and that it can be accommodated in the agenda.
- 3.5. Consultation Burnout – A panel member suggested that if there are shared areas of consultation between University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and the CNPA that this is worked on jointly to reduce volunteer burnout and fatigue. This follows on from point 3.4 to ensure that the panel and volunteers have capacity to consult on the issue. It was further suggested by the panel to refer some requests to the access panels to help spread the requests out.
- 3.6. Inclusion Scotland Internship – A panel member shared an Inclusion Scotland Internship opportunity with UHI and asked if the panel could share this opportunity with their networks. The link will be shared with the panel via email.

- 3.7. Website Accessibility - Thanks was given to the member of the panel who contributed to the accessibility statement for the website. It was also stated that if any member of the panel wished to read the full website accessibility audit report, please contact Donald and he will be able to facilitate this.
- 3.8. In-Person Meeting – The possibility of an in-person meeting was raised. Time scales were discussed with April being the popular choice (it was mentioned it would be best to avoid school holidays). It was stated that CNPA would help with any additional support for reasonable adjustment. Any members of the panel who are not comfortable with this or who have any concerns are asked to contact Kate. The panel asked that transport from Aviemore was arranged to facilitate travelling on public transport.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 25TH JANUARY 2022

END OF MEETING