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# CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

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## FOR DISCUSSION

**Title: LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP**

**Prepared by: Fiona McLean, Community Heritage Officer**

### **Purpose**

To update the board on progress with the Landscape Partnership bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and to seek a steer on the content of the application.

### **Recommendations**

That the board consider the scoping for the Landscape Partnership bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and provide a steer on the developing content.

### **Executive Summary**

Following the decision to adopt Tomintoul and Glenlivet as the landscape of choice for the Landscape Partnership programme, a series of scoping workshops have been held with CNPA staff, the communities and potential partners. A number of key issues are emerging as the focus for the bid and potential projects are being identified to address these issues.

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## LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP - FOR DISCUSSION

1. On 8<sup>th</sup> July 2011 the Board approved the resource to begin preparatory work on a possible Landscape Partnership bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Landscape Partnership Programme aims to achieve landscape enhancement through community-led natural and cultural heritage projects. The project area must be within 200 sq km and the maximum financial project grant from HLF is £2 million for up to 75% of the project funding. The financial commitment from partners would be a minimum of 5% over 5 years, with the remaining 20% from in-kind contribution.
2. On 28<sup>th</sup> October 2011 the Board gave a steer to make Tomintoul and Glenlivet the landscape of choice. The Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust has now been established, and has funding for three years until 2015 for a Development Officer. The Landscape Partnership bid would be timely for the area with a potential start date of summer 2015, subject to success in two rounds of applications, the first round in early 2013 and then, if successful in the first round, the second round in 2014.
3. The Tomintoul and Glenlivet Transform Team have agreed to act as the Steering Group for the Landscape Partnership bid. The Transform Team consists of representatives from the Moray Council, Cairngorms Business Partnership, VisitScotland, HIE, the Crown Estate, RCAHMS, CNPA, community organisations and the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust. A Project Board has been set up to oversee the application process, which includes representatives from the Community Development Trust, the Crown Estate and CNPA. It is hoped that the Community Development Trust will assume the role of lead partner for the application once it is fully established and in a position to take on the responsibility.
4. A series of scoping workshops have been held with CNPA staff, and with community representatives and potential partners, which have identified the boundary for the landscape area and a number of key issues which the Landscape Partnership programme could address. Specific projects to address these issues are being designed and will be agreed with the Steering Group and Board. The issues fit within three themes: rural life, hidden histories and wetland habitats. The potential themes, projects and partners, and some indicative costs, are outlined in Annex I - Table of Potential Projects (Please note this is a work in progress).

### Implications

#### *Financial Implications*

5. There are no direct financial implications from this discussion paper. The initial project development resource is already in place and additional resource required for the second round application will be built into the forthcoming corporate and operational plans. Decisions made on the issues and projects to include in the application will impact on the amount of funding required from CNPA and partners, for which further financial approval will be sought. The activity will be delivered over two corporate planning cycles.

***Presentational Implications***

6. The bid and project development offers significant potential benefits to Tomintoul and Glenlivet and in turn to the Park as a whole. There may be sensitivity about a focus on a particular area of the Park, but the focus is in tune with the new National Park Plan which emphasises Tomintoul and Glenlivet as an area of particular need.

***Implications for Stakeholders***

7. The project development will involve a wide range of partners and stakeholders, and the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Community Development Trust. As well as ensuring there is support to help the communities engage in and develop the project proposals, we will also need to manage expectations, given that there is no guarantee of a bid to HLF being successful. However, the process of developing the bid through the communities will be valuable in itself and will result in viable project proposals.

**Next Steps**

8. The next steps are:
  - a) Agree with the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Transform Team and Project Board the content of the first round application;
  - b) Obtain commitment of funding from key partners;
  - c) Identify the resource requirements within CNPA to continue to support development of the bid and its implementation, if successful.

**Fiona McLean**

31<sup>st</sup> August 2012

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