
CAIRNGORMS LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

Title: Scottish Executive Monitoring of Access Authorities – expenditure and duties

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Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to brief the Forum on the requirement by the Scottish Executive to return a twice yearly monitoring form on duties and expenditure carried out in relation to Part 1 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act

Background

1. Part 1 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 gives a range of duties and powers to the Park Authority, including upholding access rights, core path planning and powers to amend bylaws being a few examples. In order to monitor progress and expenditure on these new powers and duties, the Scottish Executive has put into place a twice yearly monitoring regime. This data is collected from all access authorities and compiled in a database for information at a national level.
2. The monitoring form itself is divided into three parts:

Part 1- relates to general access functions and core paths plans
Part 2- relates to the exercise of powers and duties
Part 3- relates to expenditure
3. Part 1 and 2 have to be filled and returned for the periods between April and September and October to March. Part 3 has to be filled in from April to March reflecting the standard financial year.

Recommendations

4. The Forum is asked to note the appended CNPA monitoring return (see Paper Four Annex 1) for the period from 1st April 2006 to 30th of September 2006. Forum members may also view the national picture available at the following link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Countryside/16328/AccessAuthorities>

5. The summary page of the national picture is attached at Paper Four Annex 2.

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