

## **Contents:**

	Page No.	1
Aims of the Park/contacts		2
Introduction		3
Record of Community Meetings		4
Area Demographics		6
Community Co-ordinator's Reports		7
Summary of Issues		13
Community Meetings; brief summaries		14
Questionnaire; Summary of main results		16
Introduction to Questionnaire & Meeting Results		17
<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Results</b>	
Angus Glens:	questionnaire	18
	meeting results	21
Aviemore:	questionnaire	26
	meeting results	43
Ballater & Crathie:	questionnaire	47
	meeting results	64
Boat of Garten:	questionnaire	68
	meeting results	80
Braemar + Inverey:	questionnaire	85
	meeting results	96
Carr-Bridge:	questionnaire	99
	meeting results	110
Cromdale:	questionnaire	116
	meeting results	125
Dalwhinnie:	questionnaire	127
	meeting results	131
Donside:	questionnaire	133
	meeting results	144
Dulnain Bridge:	questionnaire	147
	meeting results	157
Glenlivet:	questionnaire	159
	meeting results	167
Grantown-on-Spey:	questionnaire	178
	meeting results	195
Kincraig:	questionnaire	200
	meeting results	213
Kingussie:	questionnaire	229
	meeting results	243
Laggan:	questionnaire	245
	meeting results	254
Mid-Deeside + Cromar:	questionnaire	256
	meeting results	262
Nethy Bridge:	questionnaire	267
	meeting results	280
Newtonmore:	questionnaire	283
	meeting results	300
Rothiemurchus + Glenmore:	questionnaire	303
	meeting results	314
Tomintoul:	questionnaire	316
	meeting results	327

Central to the Cairngorms National Park Local Plan will be the four **Aims** of the Park:

- a) to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area;
- b) to promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area;
- c) to promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public; and
- d) to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000;

s9(1) "The general purpose of a National Park authority is to ensure that the National Park aims are collectively achieved in relation to the National Park in a co-ordinated way.

s9(6) "In exercising its functions a National Park authority must act with a view to accomplishing the purpose set-out in subsection (1); but if in relation to any matter, it appears to the authority that there is a conflict between the National Park aim set out in section 1(a) and other National Park aims, the authority must give greater weight to the aim set out in section 1(a).

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This report is also on the Cairngorms National Park Authority website: [www.cairngorms.co.uk](http://www.cairngorms.co.uk)

## **Introduction:**

When the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) took up its operational powers, when the Park was officially opened on 1st September 2003, it became responsible for the provision of Development Plans.

The Cairngorms National Park (CNP) covers the areas of four local authorities: Highland, Moray, Aberdeenshire and Angus. All four of these authorities have their own structure plan and local plan, which contain development maps and planning policies. A structure plan provides the strategic framework for the development of an area, a local plan provides the detailed policies and recommendations. The CNP also borders Perth & Kinross Council area, and we also pay regard to their plans and policies, as some issues do cross 'borders'.

The CNP Local Plan will replace the four existing local plans within the Park area, providing detailed maps and policies for all land-use development over the five-year life of the Plan. Instead of a structure plan, the CNPA will be developing a Park Plan, which will be the management plan for the whole Park area; it will also provide the strategic framework for the Local Plan. The CNP Local Plan will be used to determine all planning applications within the Park area, and will be implemented for such by both the CNPA and the four constituent local authorities.

Early on in the Local Plan process, we decided that one of its principal objectives was the full involvement of the Park's communities. To this end we first of all recruited two 'Community Liaison Co-ordinators' in May 2004, who's first job was to set-up communication networks across the Park's 23 Community Council areas. They were also enlisting volunteers (facilitators) to help organise the consultation in each area. All the Community Councils were also given various options for the extent to which they wished to organise and run the consultation in their own area.

Another decision taken early in the process, was to do a full community consultation before we actually started to write the Local Plan. In this way we could gather the aspirations and opinions of local communities, without them being based on the pre-conceived ideas of the planners. In September 2004 the CNPA delivered a questionnaire and community profile to every household within the Park; over 1400 questionnaires were returned (relating to over 14% of all delivered) but that proportion actually rises when the numbers are considered against the 20% of the Park's houses which are second homes or holiday accommodation. These questionnaires were then collated and analysed, and the results used as the basis for the first phase of public meetings.

Every community area in the Park had at least one Local Plan consultation meeting, over October-December 2004; many of which were run by the facilitators in their local community. 44 meetings were held, many of which were small discussion groups, but at least one large open meeting was held in each area. Over 1600\* people attended these meetings, whose format was generally based around large maps in which 'idea-pins/flags' could be stuck, and comments recorded; discussion groups often followed. \*approximately 10% of the CNP's population.

The purpose of this Consultation Report is to set-out a public record of the questionnaire results and public meeting comments, in one document.

Next stages:

The next stage in the process is to write the Preliminary Draft Local Plan, which will be out for consultation from June to September 2005; this will have been developed using the first phase of consultation responses as it's 'foundation'. Following its consultation exercise, the Preliminary Draft will be revised over the winter, into the Finalised Draft for Deposit; this will be out for the final consultation in March 2006. Following this there may be a Public local Inquiry, if there are outstanding objections which cannot be resolved, and the Local Plan will hopefully be adopted by the CNPA later in 2006.

## RECORD OF LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION MEETINGS 2004

Date	Community Council Area	Type	Venue	Time	Attendance
<b>OCTOBER 2004</b>					
27	<b>KINCRAIG</b>	Main	Village Hall	8pm	46
28					
29					
30					
31					
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
1	Boat of Garten	preliminary	Hall Clubbie	7.30pm	14
	Grantown	Youth preliminary	YM	7.30pm	25
2					
3	Glenlivet	preliminary	Braes Hall	7.30pm	24
4	Grantown	Youth preliminary	YM	7-8.30pm	25
5					
6					
7					
8	Glenlivet	preliminary	Glenlivet school	7.30pm	23
	Boat of Garten	preliminary	Hall Clubbie	7pm	36
9	Donside	preliminary	Doune Court	10.30am	7
10	Grantown	Business preliminary	Benmohr Hotel	7.30-9pm	50
11	Kincraig	preliminary	Alvie House		23
			Insh		23
12					
13					
14	<b>BALLATER + CRATHIE</b>	Drop-in	Victoria Hall	12-4pm	95
15	Boat of Garten	preliminary	Hall Clubbie	7.30	15
16	<b>DULNAIN BRIDGE</b>	Main	Village	3.30-7.30	62
17	<b>DONSIDE</b>	Drop-in	Lonach Hall	10-3pm	24
	<b>NEWTONMORE</b>	Main	Primary School	7-9pm	44
	Kincraig	preliminary	Dalnavert		11
18	<b>GRANTOWN</b>	Main drop-in	Ben Mohr Hotel	4 - 9pm	50
	<b>DONSIDE</b>	Main/results	Lonach Hall	8pm	15
	Kincraig	Young adults preliminary	Insh		8
19					
20	<b>CARR-BRIDGE</b>	Main	Village Hall	4-9pm	73 (+25 street interviews)
21					
22	Kingussie	Exhibition until 27 Nov.	Badenoch Sport Centre foyer	10am-10pm	
	Braemar	Drop-in	Village Hall	10am-1pm	14
	<b>ROTHIEMURCHUS &amp; GLENMORE</b>	Main	Tennis Club	2.30 - 7	34

23	<b>TOMINTOUL</b>	Drop-in	Tomintoul Hall	12-7pm	58
	<b>AVIEMORE</b>	Drop-in;	A.H.R. Conference Centre	3-7pm	64
Main		7-9pm		118	
24	<b>BALLATER</b>	Main/ results workshop	Supper Room	7pm	24
	<b>CRATHIE</b>	Drop-in	Crathie Hall	1.30-3.30pm	12
25	<b>LAGGAN</b>	Main	Village Hall	7.30pm	41
	<b>MID-DEESIDE</b>	Main	Dinnet Hall	7.30pm	27
26	<b>CROMDALE</b>	Main	Cromdale Hall	7.30pm	38
27	<b>KINGUSSIE</b>	Main	Badenoch Sports Centre	10am-1pm	41
	Kincraig t.b.c.	Follow-up Drop-in	Kincraig Hall	11am-5pm	38
28					
29	Grantown	Feedback	YM	7.30	25
	<b>BOAT OF GARTEN</b>	Main	Hall clubbie	3-7pm	103
30	<b>NETHYBRIDGE</b>	Main	Community Centre	3.30-7.30	76
	Mid-Deeside	workshop	Glen Tanar hall	7.30pm	12
	Kincraig	business			16
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
1	<b>GLENLIVET</b>	Main	Glenlivet Hall	7.30pm	40
	Chamber of Commerce	Presentation / discussion	Grantown-on-Spey	2pm	10
2	<b>GLEN ISLA</b>	Main	Glen Isla Hall	7.30pm	25
	<b>DALWHINNIE</b>	Parents/ toddlers	Dalwhinnie Hall	2.30-4pm	31
		Main		5.30-7pm	
3	<b>BRAEMAR</b>	Main	Castleton Hall	7pm	34
	Newtonmore	Re-visit			21
4	<b>GLEN ESK &amp; GLEN CLOVA</b>	Main	Tarfside Hall	12-2pm	5
			Clova Hotel	4-6pm	6
5					
<b>Total Attendance 1606</b>					