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|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| <b>Date:</b>        |                                                                      |                          |      |
| <b>Issue:</b>       | <b>Policy 12 – The Local and Wider Cultural Heritage of the Park</b> |                          |      |
| <b>Objector(s):</b> | Dunachton Estate                                                     | <b>Objection ref(s):</b> | 418b |
|                     | The Crown Estate                                                     |                          | 419b |

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Reporter</b>  |                        |
| <b>Procedure</b> | Written representation |

## 1.0 Overview

- 1.1 This statement sets out the Cairngorms National Park Authority response to the objections raised to the Deposit Local Plan as modified in respect of Policy 12: The Local and Wider Cultural Heritage of the Park, and supplements the response made to those objections by the Cairngorms National Park Authority in its reports to Committee (CD7.3,4 and 5). It suggests no further change be made to the policy.

## 2.0 Provision of the Local Plan

- 2.1 Policy 12 within the Deposit Local Plan as modified gives policy guidance to allow a consistent framework for development of proposals and for the assessment of applications which affect sites, features or uses of land, or their settings within the Cairngorms National Park considered to be of cultural or historic significance. During the current transitional arrangements set out in the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 (Development Planning) (Saving, Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2008, the policy is intended to provide an appropriate level of guidance to meet the requirements of SPPI (CD2.2 para 37-38) and Scottish Planning Policy (CD2.1 para 15-18) and ensure that applications affecting such sites, features of uses of land.
- 2.2 The Policy has been modified in the 1<sup>st</sup> modifications to the Deposit Local Plan with word changes within the background text to make specific reference to various examples of what might be considered through the policy.
- 2.3 Modifications also clarify the link between the policy and the first aim of the Park and how the policy will be implemented and monitored.

## 3.0 Summary of objection(s)

- 3.1 Two objections raising one issue have been lodged to this policy and wish to have their objections considered by written representation:
- The wording of the policy is vague. The policy should be amended to clarify the type of feature that would be considered significant under the policy, and how its importance might impact the assessment of a development application. **(418b, 419b)**

## 4.0 Summary of Cairngorms National Park Authority response

- The supporting text to the policy has been amended through 1<sup>st</sup> modifications, with additional information on how the policy is to be implemented added. No further changes are therefore proposed. **(418b, 419b)**

## **5.0 CNPA Commendation to Reporter**

- 5.1 It is commended to the Reporter that the policy is not deficient or unclear, and the objections should therefore be rejected.
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## **6.0 Assessment / Scope of Evidence**

- 6.1 **418b** and **419b** object to the wording of the policy as being vague. The supporting text does not add any clarification on whether a particular feature would be considered under the policy. The objection therefore does not oppose the policy, but rather seeks additional information on the features that might be considered under the terms of the policy.
- 6.2 Response: Through the 1<sup>st</sup> modifications to the Plan additional examples have been added to the background text in paragraph 4.69, and now include military roads, wells, caves, trees, heritage and veteran trees, traditional places of recreation or meeting, traditional or vernacular architecture, ruins or places mentioned in folklore or local history. The information given combined with guidance from the National Park Plan 2007 (CD7.1) is therefore considered to give the appropriate level of guidance to allow for clarity in the interpretation of the policy.

## **7.0 Strategic Issues**

- 7.1 The policy is intended to provide a clear link to the 1<sup>st</sup> aim of the Park, to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the Park (CD1.3). It also links the local plan to the Park Plan (CD7.1) and in particular the strategic objections relating to the 1<sup>st</sup> aim (CD7.1 page 37-39). The National Park Plan has as one of its core objectives for the next 25 years, the need to secure cultures and traditions associated with people and communities of the Park. (CD7.1 page 5) The importance of cultural heritage is continually mentioned throughout the National Park Plan, in relation to all forms of management, conservation and enhancement. It is key to the objectives set out in the Plan relating to its priorities for action, and delivering the vision set out for the Park. (CD7.1 page 4).

## **8.0 List of documents (including Core Documents)**

- CD1.3 The National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000
- CD2.1 Scottish Planning Policy 2008 Parts 1 and 2
- CD2.2 SPPI The Planning System
- CD7.1 Cairngorms National Park Plan 2007
- CD7.3 CNPA Committee Report Consultation May 2008
- CD7.4 CNPA Committee Report 1<sup>st</sup> Modifications October 2008
- CD7.5 CNPA Committee Report 2<sup>nd</sup> Modifications February 2009-03-26