

Date:			
Issue:	Policy Omission – Forestry and Agriculture		
Objector(s):	Dr A Watson	Objection ref(s):	020k
	DW and IM Duncan		037u

Reporter	
Procedure	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 omissions within the plan of a policy relating to forestry operations. It 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 Plan.

2.0 Provision of the Local Plan

2.1 The Local Plan within Section 4-6 sets out a variety of policies which provide a development framework for the whole plan. These policies are to be considered together (Para 1.20) in the assessment of any development proposal. The Plan does not therefore contain numerous policies dealing with various forms of development, but rather sets a framework against which all eventualities can be assessed.

3.0 Summary of objection(s)

- 3.1 Two objections raising one issue have been lodged to the omission:
- The plan should contain a policy to control forestry and agriculture operations (**020k, 037u**)

4.0 Summary of Cairngorms National Park Authority response

- The local plan provides a framework of policies to assess all forms of development rather than listing numerous policies on specific development types. The local plan also takes into consideration the National Park Plan (CD7.1) where there is greater detail on strategic considerations which further the aims of the Park. It is therefore considered that the two documents in tandem provide sufficient support and guidance. (**020k, 037u**)

5.0 CNPA Commendation to Reporter

5.1 It is commended to the Reporter that these objections are rejected. No issues are raised that could lead the Cairngorms National Park Authority to consider that the plan is deficient.

6.0 Assessment / Scope of Evidence

6.1 **020k** objects to the lack of particular reference to forestry and agriculture operations within the policies of the Plan. The purpose of the Local Plan is to provide a development framework for the whole Park, and create a clear and consistent method to guide development proposals and opportunities within the Park (para 1.6). The policies contained within the Plan are intended to provide this clarity without setting out numerous policies on particular types of development.

This will instead be considered under all the relevant policies of the Plan (Para 1.20). Issues which are carried out by way of permitted developments are not assessed under the terms of the Local Plan. Where a planning authority wish to remove these permitted development rights, this can be done under normal planning powers and there is not therefore any need to repeat this ability within the Local Plan or include a policy or proposal to that end.

6.2 **037u** objects to the same issue and the support for the approach taken in the Local Plan is therefore the same.

7.0 Strategic Issues

7.1 The National Park Plan (CD7.1) is a material consideration and the strategic objectives contained within it are considered in the decision making process. The issue of forestry and agricultural operations is highlighted within this Plan, in particular within the objectives for conserving and enhancing the Park (CD7.1, page 47, c). Together, the Local Plan and National Park Plan are therefore considered to give sufficient clarity on the issue of forestry and agriculture. It is not therefore considered necessary to make any change to the Local Plan in this regard.

8.0 List of documents (including Core Documents)

- CD6.12 Deposit Local Plan 1st modifications
- CD6.13 Deposit Local Plan 2nd modifications
- CD7.1 Cairngorms National Park Plan 2007
- CD7.3 CNPA Committee Report Consultation May 2008
- CD7.4 CNPA Committee Report 1st Modifications October 2008
- CD7.5 CNPA Committee Report 2nd Modifications February 2009