

Angus Glens

Monday 7th November, 7pm

Memus and the Glens Hall

Main points from the National Park Plan (Main bullet points taken from the discussion)

Outcome 10

The Parks' recreation opportunities will have improved the health and enjoyment of residents and visitors

- Actions need to also focus on skiing and winter sports
 - Good to see mountain biking covered
 - However, plan should recognise other sports such as shooting, stalking, climbing, water sports
- Need year round activities – January to December
- Possible focus on 'regional' attractions eg Corrie Fee, but need for more marketing, and issues to do with transport costs for schools to get out into the Park
- Interface across the Park boundary – Angus is a gateway to the Park
- Mention of role for the 'Pictish way' proposal
- Concern over potential for too much signage for routes – contradicts 'wildness', but need to balance with access for all
- Need to educate public about appropriate clothing and equipment, whilst encouraging leisure pursuits
 - Potential for ranger service involvement, and guidance for leaders of groups (Eg walking)
- Query definition of 'less active people's and what the recreational opportunities would be

Outcome 3

The species for which the Cairngorms National Park is most important will be in better conservation status in the Park

- Definition of better conservation status needed- not clear what we mean
- What will an 'improvement' look like – who decides this
- Habitat quality and links should be included in the biodiversity action plan – possibly merge outcomes 2 and 3
- Particular policies on beaver and mink?

- Review and update publications on species and habitats – previously done by the Cairngorms Partnership
- Wary of contradictory advice for land managers link to ‘what is an improvement’ question
- Advice and support for land managers – could take the form of funding and training opportunities, and then understanding and implementing national government strategies
- Are the plans too aspirational? And will they raise expectations too much?

Outcome 6

The economy of the Park will have grown and diversified drawing on the Park’s special qualities

- Broadband is particularly important in Angus – poor coverage, also poor mobile phone coverage – opportunities to use digital television eg looking local
 - Can the plan really address broadband issue or is it only raising expectations
- What non-land based activities can be taken forward?
 - We should build on existing businesses which are mainly land based
- What format of business support is available? Where and how can it be accessed?
 - Trans-boundary issues in Angus
 - Businesses based outwith the Park, but serving clients within
- Many of the qualities apply throughout Scotland, as do the issues associated with them – what is specific to the Cairngorms?
- Drawing people to the entrance of the Park

Main Points from the Local Development Plan (Main Issues Report) (Main bullet points take from discussion)

Issue 7

Support for rural areas: *How do we plan for development that supports our rural areas – follow the existing patterns of development or take a different approach?*

- Should Angus have a role in discussing issues that affect other parts of the Park?
- How recent is the recent past? Should the focus be historical development of railways and tourism – key stages? Or should we focus on today’s residents and not the past?
- What is ‘appropriate’ development
- Consider the impact on the settled community – proportionate development
- Impact of wind farms and issues at boundary
 - Transposes focus to areas surrounding the park
 - cumulative impacts
 - trans boundary issues
 - potential for buffer zones?