

Cairngorms National Park Local Plan
First Modifications
Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report

Appendix 1

**Checklist of relevant plans and programmes and their environmental
objectives**

Other relevant plans/programmes and relevant environmental objectives:			
		Relevant LP Policy	comments
Cairngorms National Park Plan Strategic Objectives (also subject to SEA)			
Strategic Objectives for Landscape, Built and Historic Environment:	a)	Maintain and enhance the distinctive landscapes across the Park.	3,7
	b)	Conserve and enhance the sense of wildness in the montane area and other parts of the Park.	7
	c)	Ensure development complements and enhances the landscape character of the Park	7
	d)	New development in settlements and surrounding areas and the management of public spaces should complement and enhance the character, pattern and local identity of the built and historic environment	7,17,18
	e)	Understand and conserve the archaeological record, historic landscapes and historic built environment.	7,8,9,10,11,12
Strategic Objectives for Biodiversity:	a)	Conserve and enhance the condition and diversity of habitats and species present throughout the Park through a landscape-scale approach to habitat networks.	2,3,4,5,6,
	b)	Ensure all designated nature conservation sites are in favourable condition.	2,3,4
	c)	Engage all sectors in meeting or exceeding international, national and local biodiversity targets.	2,3,4,5,6
	d)	Improve the long-term sustainability and restore the full range of montane habitats through managing pressures from grazing, other land management, recreation and development.	2,3,4,5,6
	e)	Ensure that populations of species given special protection under the Habitat Regulations, the Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Nature Conservation Act and European Directives are stable or, where appropriate, increasing.	5
	g)	Identify, prioritise and take action to address non-native species that pose a threat to the natural heritage and land management of the Park.	
	h)	Promote appropriate reintroduction of species and reinstatement of habitats and identify the likely ecological, economic and management impacts.	

Strategic Objectives for Geodiversity:	a)	Safeguard the geological and geomorphological features and associated processes that contribute to the landscape of the Park.	4,14	
	c)	Prevent degradation and erosion of soils, particularly vulnerable montane and organic soils.	14	
	d)	Safeguard against large-scale extraction and removal of mineral resource from the National Park.	14	
Strategic Objectives for Culture and Traditions:	b)	Support and promote the diverse cultural traditions of communities within the Park.	12	
Strategic Objective for Sustainable Use of Resources:	a)	All management and development in the Park should seek to make the most sustainable use of natural resources, including water and energy.	13,14,15,16	
Strategic Objectives for energy:	a)	Contribute to national targets for greater renewable production through increasing community, business and domestic-scale renewable energy schemes.	16	
Strategic Objectives for Water:	a)	Maintain or where necessary enhance the existing high water quality and physical condition of waterbodies in the Park	13	
	b)	Adopt a catchment-scale approach to water management that integrates land-use, nature conservation and flood management.	13	
	c)	Encourage more sustainable patterns of domestic, industrial, agricultural and recreational water use.	13,18	
	d)	Promote sustainable flood management consistent with natural fluvial processes.	13	
Strategic Objectives for Air:	a)	Maintain, and where possible enhance, the existing high level of air quality.	18, 19	
	b)	Retain dark night skies and minimise light and noise pollution.	7,18	
Strategic Objectives for Forest and Woodland Management:	a)	Promote multi-objective forest and woodland management that delivers environmental, economic and social benefits		
	b)	Enhance the condition of existing woodland cover and expand to develop habitat networks that complement the landscape character and other land-uses.		
	c)	Encourage a full range of forest ecosystems from valley floor to natural altitudinal tree-line in targeted areas and the re-development of woodland types that have declined.		
	g)	Contribute to national efforts to address climate change.	18,19	

Strategic Objectives for Moorland Management:	a)	Enhance moorlands as a high value and sustainable resource for nature conservation, sport, agriculture, landscape and recreation.		
	b)	Demonstrate and enhance the delivery of biodiversity targets by moorland management.		
	c)	Manage the interaction of moorlands with surrounding land-uses to maintain and enhance the integrity of the moorland landscape, ecosystems, key habitat networks and hydrology.		
Strategic Objectives for Deer Management:	a)	Manage deer populations at densities consistent with maintaining and enhancing the special natural heritage qualities of the Park, particularly native woodland, montane and moorland habitats.		
	e)	Where deer fencing is considered appropriate, minimise the impacts on public safety, deer welfare, biodiversity, landscape, cultural heritage and recreation.		
Strategic Objectives for Fisheries Management:	a)	Encourage co-ordination of fisheries management at river system and catchment level.		
	b)	Encourage removal and minimisation of artificial barriers that impede passage of fish and affect river flow.	13	
Strategic Objectives for Sustainable Communities:	a)	Encourage a population level and mix in the Park that meets the current and future needs of its communities and businesses.	Housing land allocations, policies 21	
	b)	Make proactive provision to focus settlement growth in the main settlements and plan for growth to meet community needs in other settlements.	Housing land allocations	
Strategic Objectives for Housing:	a)	Increase the accessibility of rented and owned housing to meet the needs of communities throughout the Park.	21	
	c)	Improve the physical quality, energy efficiency and sustainable design of housing in all tenures throughout the Park.	18,19	
	d)	Ensure there is effective land and investment for market and affordable housing to meet the economic and social needs of communities throughout the Park.	Housing land allocations & housing policies	
Strategic Objectives for Transport and Communications:	c)	Ensure transport and communications infrastructure is managed and developed in ways consistent with the special qualities of the Park.	18,30,31	
Strategic Objectives for Waste Management:	a)	Minimise waste and encourage better waste management through community and domestic-scale recycling facilities.	18,32	
	c)	Reduce litter in the Park.		

Strategic Objectives for Sustainable Tourism:	c) Maintain a high quality environment by encouraging sound environmental management by all those involved in tourism in the Park.		
	h) Encourage an optimum flow and spread of visitors across the Park and minimise social and environmental impact including traffic generated by visitors and conflicts between different forms of recreation.		
Strategic Objectives for Outdoor Access and Recreation:	b) Promote high standards of responsible enjoyment of the Park so that its special qualities are understood and appreciated, safeguarded now and for future generations to enjoy and the interests of others are respected.		
	g) Protect the more fragile areas of the Park from pressures arising from outdoor access and recreation.	34	
EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC 1979	Requires Member States to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitats to maintain ecologically and scientifically sound levels.	2,5	
EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora 92/43/EEC 1992	Requires Member States to sustain populations of naturally occurring flora & fauna by sustaining areas of habitats to maintain ecologically and scientifically sound levels.	2,5	
Directive 2000/60/EC The Water Framework Directive	Requires Member States to achieve good ecological status of inland water bodies.	13	
Directive 1966/62/EC on ambient air quality and management	Establishes standards for air quality and sets limits for various pollutants.	18	
Nature Conservation Act (Scotland) 2004	Biodiversity, revision of SSSIs, crime prevention.	3,4,5,6	
Climate Change; the UK Programme	Aims to cut the UK's carbon emissions by 60% by 2050.	18,19	
Choosing our Future: Scotland's sustainable development strategy (2005)	Sets out Scotland's approach to delivering more sustainable development, and the challenges faced in achieving this.	Whole plan	
Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales & NI: Working Together for Clean Air.	Set out objectives for 8 main air pollutants to protect health.	18	
Structure Plans	The Highland, Moray, Aberdeenshire and Angus Council Structure Plan's set out the strategic framework for an authority area.	Whole plan, particularly housing	
Community Plans	The Highland, Moray, Aberdeenshire and Angus Council Community Plan's, which set out how public services will be planned and delivered, through consultation and co-operation (among all public bodies, and with community bodies).	Whole plan, particularly housing	

River Spey Management Plan			
	3.1 Maintain the high water quality standards in the Spey and determine the ecological requirements and tolerance limits of freshwater pearl mussel and sea lamprey	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	3.6 Determine the extent of the problem of contaminated land within the Spey catchment and restore any such areas to beneficial use.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	4.1 Identify 'Flood Risk' areas in Local Authority Development Plans, with appropriate policies for controlling development and mitigating impact.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	6.1 Conserve and enhance the Atlantic salmon, sea lamprey, freshwater pearl mussel and otter populations of the River Spey and its catchment.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	6.2 Conserve and enhance the fragmented and endangered water vole populations of the River Spey catchment based on an improved understanding of their distribution.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	6.3 Conserve and enhance the riverine bird populations of the River Spey and its catchment based on an improved understanding of their distribution.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	6.5 Conserve and enhance the specialist river shingle invertebrate populations of the River Spey catchment based on an improved understanding of their distribution.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	8.2 Consider the potential for floodplain or riparian woodlands to contribute towards flood control, river bank stabilisation and assist with water quality management.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	8.3 Conserve and enhance scarce or threatened tree species associated with the river system.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	9.2 Improve the adequacy of private water supply and wastewater facilities to meet existing demand and comply with existing consent.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	9.3 Prevent pollution from new developments at both construction and operational stages.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	9.5 Prevent pollution or obstructions from significant structural works across the river or from ongoing maintenance and repair works nearby.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	9.6 Mitigate the impact of higher numbers of visitors on both water supply and wastewater systems and also on the natural heritage and fisheries of the river system.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
	9.7 Safeguard the quality and quantity of water in the sub-catchments of private distillery supplies and consider any positive application of heated water.	2,3,4,5,6,13	
River Dee Catchment Management Plan	Similar objectives to River Spey Plan.		
Cairngorms Local Biodiversity Action Plan Project	The Cairngorms Local Biodiversity Action Plan Project (or LBAP) is a long-term initiative that seeks to initiate actions for biodiversity across the whole Cairngorms area and raise the awareness of protecting, enhancing and appreciating the biodiversity of the Park area.	6	
Local Housing Strategy	The Highland, Moray, Aberdeenshire and Angus Council Local Housing Strategies (and Delivery Plans). The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 requires local authorities to undertake a comprehensive assessment of housing needs and conditions, and to produce strategies to tackle the housing problems in their areas. Communities Scotland assess these local housing strategies (LHS) on behalf of Scottish Ministers.	Housing land allocations and housing policies	
Local Transport Strategy	The Highland, Moray, Aberdeenshire and Angus Council Local Transport Strategies set-out how to maintain and improve infrastructure.	30	
Area Waste Plans	The Highland Moray Aberdeenshire and Angus	32	

	Council Area Waste Plans will set out a strategy for waste management, minimisation and recycling/composting.		
Economic Development Strategies	The Highland, Moray, Aberdeenshire and Angus Council economic development strategies, as well as those developed by the Local Enterprise Companies (Scottish Enterprise Grampian, Inverness Nairn Badenoch & Strathspey Enterprise, Scottish Enterprise Tayside).	Whole plan, but particularly policies 27,28,33 and site allocations	
CNPA Sustainable Tourism Strategy	A strategy to lead and co-ordinate the sustainable development and management of tourism.	33	
Scottish Planning Policy (SPPs)/ National Planning Policy Guideline (NPPG)			
SPP/NPPG	Expectations; are there policies in the Local Plan which cover the following:	Relevant L P Policy	comments
SPP 1 Planning system (2002)	Promote regeneration, full and appropriate use of land, buildings and infrastructure	Whole plan,	
	Promote use of previously developed land and minimise greenfield development		
	Conserve important historic and cultural assets		
	Protect and enhance areas for recreation and natural heritage		
	Support better access by foot bicycle and public transport		
	Encourage energy efficiency through layout and design of development		
	Encourage prudent use of natural resources		
	Require good design		
	Encourage improvement of the physical environment		
SPP2 Economic development (2002)	Identify supporting action eg for environmental improvement that can assist the delivery of economic development	27,28,33	
SPP 3 Planning for Housing (2003)	Re-use vacant or cleared land in urban areas.	Housing land allocations and policies	
	Specify the standards and criteria against which the development of gap, garden or other infill sites will be judged.	18	
	Specify those areas where regeneration and environmental improvement is to be given priority.		
	Define any areas of the countryside where isolated sporadic or small groups of houses in the countryside will be allowed; set out the criteria against which proposals for individual houses within these areas will be judged.	22,23,24	
	Provide for the conversion and re-use of buildings including redundant farm buildings.	29	

	Clearly define areas including green belts where new housing will not normally be allowed.	The protective policies of the plan provide the tests for whether or not housing development would be permitted.	
	Protect valuable urban open space, particularly playing fields.	36	
	Guide the design of new housing proposals, including where appropriate the preparation of planning briefs, particularly in relation to new settlements.	18, settlement land allocations, and development of a sustainable design guide	
SPP 4 Planning for Minerals (2006)	Define sites or areas of search, where mineral working would be favoured.	1-14	
	Define sites or areas where environmental considerations are likely to militate against mineral working.	1-14	
	Ameliorate significant environmental effects for proposed mineral developments.	1-14	
	Promote reclamation of sites to beneficial after-use.	14	
	Facilitate recycling and re-use of material in waste tips and construction wastes where environmentally acceptable.	14	
	Include criteria for testing planning applications in respect of pollution, nature conservation, landscape, cultural heritage and built up areas.	1-14	
NPPG 5 Archaeology (1994)	Require the protection, preservation and, where appropriate, enhancement of all nationally important sites of archaeological interest and their settings; and also for other unscheduled remains and their settings identified as particularly worthy of preservation.	9	
	Require the protection and where appropriate the enhancement of landscapes of historic importance including historic gardens and designed landscapes, and their settings.	7,9	
	Require the excavation and recording of sites where the primary aim of preservation has not been achieved.	9	
SPP 6 Renewable Energy (2007)	Support Scottish Minister's commitment to renewable energy and provide positively for its development	1-16	
	Define broad areas of search suitable for wind and other renewable energy developments or, where appropriate, specific sites.		
	Safeguard, where appropriate, areas with potential for renewable energy.		
	Indicate whether there are areas or sites where, for overriding environmental reasons, proposals for renewable energy development would only be considered in exceptional circumstances.		
	Guide developers on the broad criteria they would be required to consider in any development proposal, including those falling outwith preferred areas.		
SPP 7 Flooding (2004)	Indicate where a degree of flood risk exists.	13 & land allocations	

	Define areas where development is unlikely to be acceptable and areas where flood threat can be managed	13 & land allocations	
NPPG 8 Town Centres and Retailing (1998)	Promote the environmental improvement of town and other centres and retail and commercial leisure developments,	17	
	Provide criteria for testing new developments outwith the framework of preferred sites and indicate how such developments will be assessed including environmental and design criteria.		
NPPG 10 Waste Management (1996)	Encourage development which assists in the reduction, re-use and recovery of waste for example through the re-use of buildings wherever practicable	13,15,18	
	Provide facilities as close as is reasonable to the source of waste production, taking into account the safeguarding of the natural and built environment.		
	Require provision of recycling facilities at new superstores and provide for other civic amenity sites		
	Provide guidance on appropriate locations for differing waste management facilities including special and clinical wastes and wastewater treatment plants.		
	Provide standards for landfill site restoration, aftercare and after-use and the proper landscaping of all waste sites.		
	Identify closed landfills, whether they require further treatment and specify appropriate after-uses.		
	Protect groundwater		
NPPG 11 Sport Physical Recreation and Open Space (1996)	Protect and enhance parks and open spaces and other land of recreational, amenity or wildlife value.	34,36	
	Identify public access routes, referring to other publications if appropriate, state the statutory position and indicate where the network requires to be augmented.	Policies 34 & 36 are relevant but the CNPA is also the Access Authority for the Park and is developing a Core Path Plan and has an Outdoor Access Strategy	
	Safeguard and improve public access to open space and to the countryside, especially Green Belts and promote new or replacement routes.		
	Promote planting of new woodlands for recreation, landscape and nature conservation benefits.	18	
	Safeguard nature conservation and cultural heritage designations and the character of the landscape from effects of sporting or recreational developments including the effects of increased traffic in rural areas.	1-9,12,13, 35,36	
NPPG 12 Skiing (1997) [where relevant]	Set out criteria against which new ski and associated developments will be considered including environmental criteria	35	
NPPG 14 Natural heritage (1999)	Protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of internationally, nationally and locally designated areas and sites (including potential SPAs and SACs).	1-7	
	Indicate the criteria against which a development affecting a natural heritage designation will be assessed.	1-7	

	Encourage the management and safeguard of features of the landscape of major importance for nature conservation or amenity, including field boundaries, woodlands, trees, lochs, ponds, watercourses and other wetlands	1-7	
	Include policies for the conservation and/or enhancement of landscape character, including, where appropriate, wild land character.	7	
	Make appropriate provision for Local Nature Reserves and the protection and enhancement of open space of natural heritage value.	4,6,36	
	Identify opportunities to extend native woodland cover and to maintain and enhance wetlands.	6	
	Provide for the conservation of biodiversity and the protection and enhancement of the natural heritage outwith designated areas.	6	
SPP 15 Rural development (2005)	Identify opportunities for re-use/conversion of agricultural buildings and set out the criteria against which applications for residential and business re-use will be assessed.	29,27	
	Identify locations where tourism development could lead to environmental improvement and improve public enjoyment of the countryside.		
SPP 17 Transport (2005)	Encourage people to make more journeys by walking, cycling, and public transport.	30	
		The CNPA is not the Transport Authority, but we will support the 4 constituent Local Authorities in their transport programmes.	
NPPG 18 Historic environment (1999)	Define the historic environment and where appropriate, its landscape or townscape setting, in proposals maps.	9,10,11,12	
	Include policies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of the historic environment and its setting including listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments and historic gardens and designed landscapes.	9,10,11,12	
	Outline criteria that will be applied to development proposals within conservation areas, within the curtilage of listed buildings and development affecting the setting of scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, historic gardens and designed landscapes.	9,10,11	
	Specify criteria that will be applied to proposals for alteration, extension, demolition or re-use of listed buildings and for unlisted buildings within conservation areas.	9,10,11	
	Identify priorities for enhancement programmes, including opportunities for regeneration or revitalisation. Indicate sites and areas for which development briefs, design guides, character appraisals and other relevant guidance have been prepared.		
NPPG 19 Telecomms (2001)	Specify development control criteria for radio telecommunications development including siting and design matters	1-14,18,31	

SPP 20 Role of Architecture + Design in Scotland (2005)		18
A Policy Statement for Scotland Designing Places (2001)		