

Park Plan Objective	5. Montane a) Improve long-term sustainability and restore the full range of montane habitats, through managing pressures from grazing, other land management and development;	
Purpose of objective	The montane area is one of the most distinctive qualities of the Park and its habitats are of UK and international importance, which this objective seeks to protect.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	None identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective gives strong support to habitat management and reducing the pressure on habitats, which support many montane species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective gives strong support for protecting the montane habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Through protection of habitats from grazing and other impacts, the ecosystems will be strengthened.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Conservation of montane habitats will have a positive effect on water quality and systems.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Conservation of montane habitats will have a positive effect on water quality and systems.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Montane habitats and vegetation are a valuable component of the landscape character, contributing particularly to the qualities of wildness.
7. To enable responsible access for all	=	Objective is unlikely to affect current provision/enjoyment of responsible outdoor access
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on the habitats, species and ecosystems associated with the montane areas, and the resulting landscape value.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5. Montane b) Demonstrate the highest standards in managing the impacts of recreation on montane habitats, soils and natural processes through sensitive path repairs, targeted advice and encouragement of the long-walk-in;	
Purpose of objective	The sensitive montane area is subject to a range of pressures, of which recreation is significant. A co-ordinated approach to its management in this area is important.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	None identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective explicitly seeks the highest standards in managing the montane habitats, soils and natural processes, thereby supporting associated species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective explicitly seeks the highest standards in managing the montane habitats, soils and natural processes.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Objective explicitly seeks the highest standards in managing the montane habitats, soils and natural processes.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	High standards in managing natural processes in the montane area will have a positive effect on the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	High standards in managing natural processes in the montane area will have a positive effect on the water environment downstream.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Good management of the montane area will enhance its landscape value, particularly qualities of wildness.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	The objective explicitly seeks high standards in access management, including paths and visitor management.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on the species, habitats and ecosystems of the montane area through high standards of management, and enhances the landscape, water environment and management of responsible access.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5. Montane c) Retain and enhance the sense of wildness in the montane area through restoration of high altitude vehicle tracks, removal of redundant infrastructure and managing the impacts of motorised access, organised events, aircraft noise and commercial infrastructure.	
Purpose of objective	To conserve and enhance the sense of wildness, part of the landscape character.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	None identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	Managing the impacts of activities identified in the objective should also help to conserve the species of the montane area.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	Managing the impacts of activities identified in the objective should also help to conserve the habitats of the montane area.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Managing the impacts of activities identified in the objective should also help to conserve the ecosystems of the montane area.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Objective seeks to enhance sense of wildness which is a key component of the landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	Objective seeks responsible access management to reduce negative impacts on the montane area.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this objective.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this objective.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a positive impact on the montane area through retaining the sense of wildness that forms part of the landscape character and experience, also helping to conserve the other natural heritage features of the area.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.1 a) Maintain and enhance the distinctive diversity of landscape character across the Park.	
Purpose of objective	<p>The distinctive landscape character is closely connected with the landforms, land management, habitats and species found here and is one of the key reasons people enjoy the Park. The landscape character also contains a historic record of use and society. Within the landscape there will be dynamic change and evolution but management and development of the Park should retain, and where possible enhance, the distinctive character.</p> <p>While the Park contains two National Scenic Areas identified for their national significance, the designation of the National Park has highlighted the national importance and coherence of the landscape qualities throughout its area. Accordingly, landscape considerations will be included in all activities that could affect landscape character anywhere within the Park.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	=	Species and habitats contribute to the ecosystems which are a component of landscape character therefore action to maintain and enhance the character may influence species
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	=	Species and habitats contribute to the ecosystems which are a component of landscape character therefore action to maintain and enhance the character may influence habitats
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The network of ecosystems is a recognised component of the landscape character
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Objective is to maintain and enhance the distinctive landscape character

7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	The historic landscape is a component of the landscape character
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	+	Settlement character is a component of the landscape character
Summary of effects	The policy is strongly positive in seeking to conserve and enhance landscape character across the Park. It therefore has some positive benefits to associated qualities including ecosystems, the historic environment and the built environment. It may influence other biodiversity qualities, but the effects may or may not be significant.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.1 b) Ensure development complements, and where possible enhances, the landscape character of the Park.	
Purpose of objective	<p>New development and infrastructure, necessary to meet the needs of those living and working in the Park, should be designed to fit and complement the landscape character of its setting, and where possible enhance that setting. The settlement statements in the Local Plan should be informed by landscape capacity studies to ensure that location and design of any new development will complement and enhance the distinctive landscape character.</p> <p>The potential impacts of public and private roads, masts, utilities, renewable energy developments (in and where relevant beyond the Park), road signs and all other man made artefacts should be assessed to ensure they do not detract from the landscape character.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Objective is to avoid adverse impact and positively enhance the landscape character
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	Objective is to protect designed landscapes and other historic environment features from inappropriate development
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	+	Objective is to avoid adverse impacts on the landscape character including the built character of existing settlements
Summary of effects		The objective gives strong encouragement to enhancing the landscape character through development, and preventing negative impacts. By association, it has a positive effect on the historic and built environments.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective		5.2.1 c) Conserve and enhance the wild characteristics of areas within the Park.
Purpose of objective		Large areas of the Park, not restricted to the montane area, are valued for their innate qualities and the experience of wildness that many people come to the area to enjoy. This sense of wildness and quiet enjoyment should be safeguarded from encroachment by human infrastructure, inappropriate activities or insensitive management and use. New tracks, paths, roads, structures and motorised forms of recreation should not detract from the quiet enjoyment of the Park. Restoration of vehicle tracks and eroded footpaths should be pursued.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		None identified
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Objective is to conserve and enhance the wild characteristics that are a distinctive part of the Park's landscape character.

7. To enable responsible access for all	=	Objective could enhance the experience of the wild characteristics- one of the special qualities of the Park, but it may require some restrictions on access infrastructure in some locations. To be considered in context of other access objectives.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects		The objective has a strongly positive effect on the landscape character, of which wild characteristics are a key component. Due to recreation interest in wild areas of the Park it may influence responsible access, but in itself, is unlikely to have a significant effect on access.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.2.1 d) Raise awareness and understanding of the influences of natural processes, land management and culture on the landscape character.	
Purpose of objective	The relationships between the natural and cultural processes that shape the landscape character and the context of the historic landscape, should be explained and understood. This should inform management and help enjoyment of the landscape. This will in part be encouraged by engagement with communities to identify why landscapes are valued. It will also be encouraged by identifying and maintaining special view points and popular views from roads.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	None identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Raising awareness of natural processes will help to inform management of ecosystems and promote their maintenance and enhancement.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Raising awareness of natural processes and the interactions with landscape will help to develop catchment management and understanding of hydrological systems
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Raising awareness of the factors affecting landscape character and its interactions will help to conserve and enhance the distinctive landscape character.

7. To enable responsible access for all	+	Objective will raise awareness of many of the special qualities that make up the landscape character.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	Objective will raise awareness of natural processes and therefore the implications of use.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	Objective will raise awareness of the historic environment and the factors affecting it as a part of the landscape character.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects		The objective will help conserve and enhance the landscape character through awareness of the influences on it. Through awareness, it will also have a positive effect on natural processes, sustainable resource use, the historic environment and outdoor access.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 a) Conserve and enhance the diversity of habitats and species present throughout the Park through a landscape-scale approach to habitat networks.	
Purpose of objective	<p>The habitats and species throughout the Park are special qualities which underpin its designation as a National Park. Many are of national and international importance and their conservation, and where possible enhancement, is of key importance. However, it is the existing scale and proximity of habitats, such as semi-natural woodland, rivers, moorland and montane areas that give the Park its particular importance. Nature conservation efforts should therefore seek to bring all habitats in the Park into good condition.</p> <p>Management should take a strategic view to enhance the linkages between habitats and the scale of individual habitats, and minimise habitat fragmentation. Extensive and inter-connected networks of montane ground, moorland, forest, wetlands and semi-natural farmland habitats should be enhanced by spatial action plans, and protected from inappropriate actions that would detract from the network.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	It was considered from early stages that a habitat network approach will be of greater value than approaches focused on single species or habitats.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective is to conserve and enhance species throughout the Park
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective is to conserve and enhance habitats throughout the Park
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Objective will strongly enhance ecosystems by adopting a habitat network approach.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing the water environment,
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing the water environment, through catchment scale management.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Objective may contribute to landscape character through habitat management and enhancement of habitat networks.

7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	=	Objective is unlikely to influence designed landscapes, which are the subject of other objectives.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects	The objective will have a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing biodiversity, together with the natural process supporting ecosystems and therefore some effect on the landscape, through habitat management.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 b) Ensure all designated nature conservation sites are in good condition.	
Purpose of objective	<p>Within the network of habitats in the Park, some are designated as being of national or international importance for particular nature conservation features including biodiversity, geology and landforms. These sites should be exemplars of good management where the natural heritage interest is secure within a long-term management plan, devised in partnership with land managers. Public support and resources should seek to engage managers, local communities and visitors in understanding and caring for these sites.</p> <p>All public bodies have responsibility to ensure that they safeguard designated sites when carrying out their functions. The use of targeted incentives will ensure specific actions to maintain and enhance the interests of designated sites. These will be complemented by incentives that promote the positive management of the connecting habitats between them.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing priority species on designated sites
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing priority habitats on designated sites
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing the water environment, in designated sites
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing the water environment, in designated sites, particularly river SACs

6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Objective may contribute to landscape character through management of designated sites for both habitats and geological and geomorphological features.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on priority habitats and species, and by extension also has a positive effect on the natural processes and ecosystems.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 c) Engage all sectors in implementing international, national and local biodiversity targets.	
Purpose of objective	<p>All partners in the Park have a key role to play in delivering aspects of European Union biodiversity objectives, the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and the Cairngorms Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP).</p> <p>The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 sets a target to halt the decline of biodiversity in Scotland by 2010. This target reinforces the aim of safeguarding the contribution that biodiversity makes to the special qualities of the Park. The Cairngorms LBAP, published in 2002, identifies a range of management issues and opportunities to conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the area.</p> <p>Building on this, all sectors involved in managing, living and working in the Park should be engaged in helping to deliver the aims of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan, thereby conserving and enhancing the biodiversity qualities of the Park.</p> <p>While biodiversity objectives apply to all native species and semi-natural habitats throughout the Park, some species require extra effort to protect and enhance them either because of their particular ecological requirements or because they are threatened with extinction. In the Park, species such as capercaillie, hen harrier, water voles, sea lampreys and freshwater pearl mussels, as well as a range of plants, require extra effort.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing species, including priority species through the UKBAP and LBAP
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing habitats, including priority habitats through UKBAP and LBAP
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing ecosystems.

4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Objective contributes to conserving and enhancing the water environment
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Objective may contribute to landscape character through habitat management
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects		The objective has a strongly positive effect on the conservation of habitats and species, through a better and more co-ordinated implementation of the LBAP. It also has positive effects on associated ecosystems, natural processes and landscape.

Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.
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Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 d) Ensure that populations of species given special protection under the Habitat Regulations, the Wildlife and Countryside Act and the Nature Conservation Act are stable or, where appropriate, increasing.	
Purpose of objective	In addition to ensuring that the habitats necessary for those species given special protection are in good condition, a co-ordinated effort between public agencies, land managers, the police and public to address wildlife crime and irresponsible actions is required. These bodies need to develop partnerships with local communities to help to prevent all forms of wildlife crime including poaching and illegal killing or taking of protected species. This will be supported by communications about the law, the nature of the species at risk, and advice as to how everyone can help to safeguard them.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective to protect species has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing species, including priority species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective to protect species has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing habitats, including priority habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Objective to protect species has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	Objective to improve funding for designated sites and beyond, so it has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing species and habitats, including the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	=	Objective does not directly affect catchment or fluvial processes but may influence through habitat management
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	=	Objective is unlikely to influence the existing condition of the historic landscape.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on conserving priority species. It may therefore also have some effect on associated natural processes and landscape through habitat management, but in itself, these effects are unlikely to be significant.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 e) Promote access to appropriate policy and funding mechanisms to support nature conservation.	
Purpose of objective	Public policy and support for nature conservation should be targeted at all interests that can contribute, including land managers, but also businesses, communities and visitors. The support should focus on the nature conservation interests and opportunities particularly relevant to the Park and should be accessible and easily understood. Public support should be based on compliance with good management practice.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective to improve funding for designated sites and beyond, so it has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing species, including priority species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective to improve funding for designated sites and beyond, so it has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing habitats, including priority habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Objective to improve funding for designated sites and beyond, so it has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing species and habitats, and therefore ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	Objective to improve funding for designated sites and beyond, so it has a strongly positive effect on conserving and enhancing species and habitats, including the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Positive action for nature conservation as a result of funding may contribute to maintaining natural fluvial processes and reducing flood risks through habitat management.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Positive action for nature conservation as a result of funding will contribute to the landscape character through habitat management.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on habitats and species, through supporting good management. It also has a positive effect on ecosystems, natural processes and landscape through management.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 f) Identify, prioritise and take action to address non-native species that pose a threat to the natural heritage and land management of the Park.	
Purpose of objective	Non-native species can be introduced either deliberately or accidentally, and many have the potential to damage the existing species, habitats and ecosystems, as well as affecting the landscape and land management. Examples include non-native fish, riparian and aquatic plants that currently pose a threat to the river ecosystems and the associated fisheries. Mink which threaten water voles, and grey squirrels which impact on red squirrel populations are also potential threats. To tackle these threats resources and incentives for implementation and monitoring are needed.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	Objective will reduce adverse impacts on species diversity as a result of non-native species
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	Objective will reduce adverse impacts on habitat diversity as a result of non-native species
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Objective will reduce adverse impacts on ecosystems as a result of non-native species
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects	The objective will have a positive effect on habitats, species and ecosystems through managing the potentially negative impacts of non-native species.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 g) Promote appropriate reintroductions of species and reinstatement of habitats and the likely impacts on existing species, habitats and ecosystems.	
Purpose of objective	Consideration will be given to reintroductions of some species or the reinstatement of some habitats in key areas of the Park. These may include for example, freshwater pearl mussel (already being reintroduced into two sites), reinstatement of water vole habitat and reintroduction of the species after controlling mink and some plant communities in floodplain areas. Opportunities should also be taken to manage habitats to attract the recolonisation of species that have become extinct in the Park, including corncrakes. Where these or other species introductions or reintroductions are being considered, their potential impacts should be researched to inform decision making and mitigation measures.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	If the Plan did not promote appropriate reintroductions, there would be no framework to consider the circumstances of each proposed reintroduction in the future, therefore a decision was taken to address this issue.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Objective will enhance the diversity of species while taking into account any potential impacts on existing species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Objective will enhance the diversity of habitats while taking into account any potential impacts on existing species and habitats
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Objective will enhance the diversity of species and habitats while taking into account any potential impacts on existing species and habitats.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	Objective will enhance the diversity of species and habitats, including the water environment, while taking into account any potential impacts on existing species and habitats.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on the diversity of species and habitats, and through management, supporting the ecosystems and wider environment.	
Options for modification or mitigation	The potential negative impacts of reintroductions and reinstatements are recognised in the objective which includes consideration of the potential impacts and mitigation where appropriate as part of the decision making process.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 h) Develop awareness and understanding of the interactions of land-uses, tourism, outdoor access and nature conservation amongst all interests.	
Purpose of objective	To ensure success in conserving and enhancing the natural heritage of the Park, all sectors need to be aware that their actions can impact - positively or negatively - on the natural heritage. Opportunities for interpretation, training or demonstration should encourage greater understanding of the interactions and mutual interests between nature conservation and the activities of managers, residents and visitors in the Park.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and its interactions with land uses to secure the conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and its interactions with land uses to secure the conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage..
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and its interactions with land uses to secure the conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage..
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and its interactions with land uses to secure the conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage..
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and its interactions with land uses to secure the conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage..

6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and its interactions with land uses to secure the conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage..
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	Objective encourages understanding and awareness of nature conservation and outdoor access to promote responsible access.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	Objective promotes understanding about the interactions of different qualities and aspects of the Park- this will contribute to an understanding of the sustainable use of these resources.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects	The objective will have a positive effect on the management of all the Park's special qualities through increased awareness and understanding.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 i) Identify and carry out a research programme designed to provide the information and monitoring on the habitats, species and ecosystems required to guide future decision-making.	
Purpose of objective	There is a specific need to address the monitoring and research on the status of species, habitats and ecosystems and the key influences including climate change scenarios and recreational disturbance.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	The alternative would be to continue an ad-hoc approach to research which would have less impact on management.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	Objective provides an evidence base to inform the management of species, habitats and ecosystems.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	Objective provides an evidence base to inform the management of species, habitats and ecosystems.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Objective provides an evidence base to inform the management of species, habitats and ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Objective provides an evidence base to inform the management of species, habitats and ecosystems.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Objective provides an evidence base to inform the management of species, habitats and ecosystems including changes affecting them.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Objective provides an evidence base to inform the management of habitats and nature conservation interests including geological and geomorphological features.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a positive impact on the natural heritage qualities of the Park through sourcing the information and data needed to inform management.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.2.2 j) Raise awareness of the outstanding geology and geomorphology in the Park.	
Purpose of objective	The Park has an internationally important record of geology and geomorphology. To encourage its long-term conservation, and understanding and enjoyment of geology and geomorphology as part of the Park's special qualities, greater effort is required in raising awareness through interpretation and education.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	None identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Through raising awareness of geological features the objective will have a positive effect on the landscape, which is shaped significantly by geological features and landforms.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	The objective will encourage conservation of mineral resources through geological features.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a positive effect on geological features and therefore landscape, through raising awareness.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.3.1 a) Prevent degradation and erosion of vulnerable montane and organic soils, including peat.	
Purpose of objective	<p>The structure and functionality of these soil types can be damaged as a result of excessive trampling by walkers and off-track cyclists; by tracking from motorised vehicles; by the construction of tracks; and by burning, excessive grazing and trampling by domestic livestock and wild deer. Receipt of public support for management must require compliance with soil conservation measures appropriate to the land holding.</p> <p>Those soils which are particularly vulnerable, such as the montane and peat soils, should be conserved through management to ensure that the functioning structures are not lost. Management of existing developments in the montane zone, such as the ski areas, will require soil conservation actions to safeguard against damage that can be caused as the result of the activities and supporting infrastructure. Management of outdoor access, recreation and farming, in addition to development through the Local Plan should also contribute to soil conservation.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Functioning soil systems underpin the habitats for all species, so this objective will have a strongly positive effect on priority and other species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Functioning soil systems underpin habitats, so this objective will have a strongly positive effect on priority and other habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Functioning soil systems underpin ecosystems, so this objective will have a strongly positive effect on maintaining ecosystem integrity.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Soil structure regulates water movement and the objective to prevent erosion of soils will help to improve water quality and avoid negative impacts on the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Soil structure regulates water movement and the objective to prevent erosion of soils will help to maintain hydrology and avoid negative impacts on the water environment.

6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Soils underpin the habitats which contribute significantly to the landscape character. Soil erosion can have a significant landscape impact, therefore this objective is likely to have a positive impact on landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	=	Soil erosion can impact on outdoor access, but this objective is unlikely to influence outdoor access. Other objectives relate to managing impacts of outdoor access.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	++	The objective explicitly seeks to conserve soil resources, particularly vulnerable soils.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		This objective has a strongly positive effect on biodiversity resources and soil, by seeking to prevent soil erosion, thereby helping to maintain functioning ecosystems. It also has a positive impact on other, connected environmental resources including landscape and water quality.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.3.2 a) Maintain and enhance the existing high water quality environment in the Park.	
Purpose of objective	The water quality in the Park's rivers and lochs is generally excellent. Management of the watercourses, neighbouring land management and the water and waste infrastructure should aim to maintain, and where possible, enhance the quality and quantity of water to the benefit of landscape, biodiversity and human use including services, access and recreation.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The high water quality supports the habitats of a number of priority and other species, therefore this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the diversity of species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The high water quality supports priority and other habitats, therefore this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the diversity of habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The high water quality supports the ecosystems, therefore this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the integrity of ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks to maintain and enhance the high quality of the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	++	The objective explicitly seeks to maintain and enhance the high quality of the water environment, which will benefit hydrological processes.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The rivers, lochs and wetlands are a key component of the landscape character. Their condition and associated habitats depend on the high water quality, therefore this objective is likely to have a positive effect on landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	Access to water is a key part of outdoor access opportunities, and the maintenance of high water quality will have a positive effect on the water access opportunities.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	+	Water is a vital resource for the population of the Park. Maintaining a high water quality will have a positive effect on the health of the population.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		Water quality underpins much of the natural heritage therefore this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the biodiversity and water environment. It is also likely to have a positive effect on landscape and human health.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.3.2 b) Adopt a catchment-scale approach to water management that integrates land-use, nature conservation and flood management.	
Purpose of objective	By managing watercourses in the context of the catchment area, there are opportunities to co-ordinate its management with surrounding land-uses and account for the up and down-stream influences and impacts. This offers benefits to water quality and quantity, flood management, fisheries, biodiversity, access and recreation. The catchment management approach currently developed for the Rivers Spey and the Dee provides a good basis on which to develop this approach in the Park.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives that would deliver the same level of integration in management required.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	An integrated approach to water management will benefit biodiversity, including priority species, by taking into account up and down-stream effects and improving management.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	An integrated approach to water management will benefit biodiversity, including priority habitats, by taking into account up and down-stream effects and improving management.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	A catchment scale approach to water management will allow consideration of the wider effects and functioning of ecosystems in an integrated way.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	An integrated approach to water management will benefit the water quality, as well as the surrounding processes and habitats.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	++	A catchment scale approach allows management of the whole water systems, having a positive effect on natural fluvial processes and considering up and down stream influences.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	A catchment scale approach allows landscape impacts and considerations to be addressed as part of an integrated approach.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	An integrated approach will take into account outdoor access considerations as part of the management approach to water.

8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	A catchment scale approach to water management allows the needs of biodiversity and the wider impacts to be considered, having a strongly positive effect on the biodiversity and catchment objectives. It also has a positive effect on associated resources including outdoor access and landscape.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.3.2 c) Encourage more sustainable patterns of water use by households, industry, agriculture and business.	
Purpose of objective	Managing the demand for water could have as much, if not greater environmental impact as managing its supply. Water supply can be a significant constraint to the development of communities. Water used wastefully is water lost from the environment and there is wasted energy in treating water that is surplus to requirements. All built development and activities using water in the Park should seek to minimise wastage and implement sustainable systems of water-use through efficient systems. Reducing both leakage from water supply networks and the demand for water should be encouraged.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	Reduced abstraction from rivers and a more efficient use of water will improve the resource for biodiversity, having a positive effect on species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	Reduced abstraction from rivers and a more efficient use of water will improve the resource for biodiversity, having a positive effect on habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	Reduced abstraction from rivers and a more efficient use of water will improve the resource for biodiversity, having a positive effect on ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Reduced abstraction from rivers and a more efficient use of water will help to minimise the impacts.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	++	More sustainable use, particularly reduced abstraction, will help reduce interference with natural fluvial processes.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	More sustainable use of water will have a positive effect on developing more sustainable use of natural resources overall.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	+	Reducing waste water and therefore unnecessary treatment will help to reduce wasted energy.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		The objective will have a strongly positive effect on catchment and hydrological processes. It will also have a positive effect on sustainable resource use and the associated condition of the natural heritage.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.3.2 d) Promote sustainable flood management consistent with natural fluvial processes.	
Purpose of objective	Potential flooding should be managed through a process of identifying risks. As the implications of climate change become clearer, these should be taken into account. Until then, a precautionary approach should be adopted. Opportunities to reduce flood risk should be taken, within and beyond the Park, such as modifying the flow through management of floodplains, wetland creation, sustainable urban drainage systems, surface flow and upstream activities. The Local Plan should minimise the risk of flooding affecting or resulting from new development.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	The alternative forms of flood management including hard engineering would not conserve natural fluvial processes or deliver wider benefits so were discounted at an early stage.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The active management of floodplains without hard engineering works will benefit species in these areas.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The active management of floodplains without hard engineering works will benefit habitats in these areas.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The active management of floodplains without hard engineering works will benefit ecosystems in these areas.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	The management of floodplains using the natural river systems and sustainable drainage systems are likely to have a positive effect on reducing downstream impacts if managed as part of a catchment approach.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	++	The management of flood risk through the whole river system is part of a catchment scale approach that offers strongly positive effects.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Floodplains are an important component of the landscape character of the Park, and their management as part of functioning river systems will benefit the landscape character.

7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the water environment and catchment management. It will also have a positive effect on the associated ecosystems, habitats, species and landscapes.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.3.3 a) Maintain, and where possible enhance, the existing high level of air quality	
Purpose of objective	The air quality is a key part of the natural environment that people come to enjoy in the Park, and helps to sustain many of the habitats and species as well as contributing to the quality of life. Emissions from transport, industry and settlements should be minimised.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The high air quality is one of the factors that create good conditions for species in the Park.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The high air quality is one of the factors that create good conditions for habitats in the Park.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The high air quality is one of the factors that help to create well functioning ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The high air quality is one of the factors that create good conditions for species in the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	++	The objective explicitly seeks to maintain the high air quality
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	Maintaining the high air quality helps to ensure the sustainability of the natural resources of the Park.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on maintaining the air quality, and on the associated resources which depend on good air quality as part of the environmental conditions.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective		5.3.3 b) Retain dark night skies and minimise light and noise pollution
Purpose of objective		As well as the physical quality of the air, the low level of light pollution means the Park is one of the best areas in the UK for dark night skies. The tranquillity of the area is also a particular quality that should be retained and enhanced. The low noise and light pollution contributes significantly to the sense of wildness and to people's enjoyment and perceptions of the Park.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		No strategic alternatives identified
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The dark night skies and lack of pollution are a part of the landscape experience enjoyed in the Park.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	+	Minimising pollution contributes to maintaining the high air quality.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	The tranquillity enjoyed in the Park is one of the natural resources.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective will have a positive effect on the landscape experience, air quality and resource use by maintaining an element of the natural environment that is a particular quality of the area.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective		5.3 a) All management and development in the Park should seek to make the most sustainable use of natural resources, including water and energy
Purpose of objective		All interests in the Park including households, land managers, visitors and businesses should seek to minimise their impact on natural resources and ensure their use is as sustainable as possible. New development and infrastructure should incorporate the most sustainable systems of energy, water, materials and other resources in order to minimise its impacts on natural processes.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		No strategic alternatives that would deliver the Park aims.
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes through sustainable resource use, which will include a positive effect on biodiversity resources.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes through sustainable resource use, which will include a positive effect on biodiversity resources.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes through sustainable resource use, which will include a positive effect on biodiversity resources.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes including water use, which will have a positive effect on the quality of the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes including water use, which will have a positive effect on hydrology and natural fluvial processes.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes, which will have a positive impact on landscape, and the geodiversity within it.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

8. To maintain and improve air quality	+	The objective seeks to minimise impacts on natural processes including energy, which will have a positive effect on air quality.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	++	The objective explicitly seeks more sustainable use of resources.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	++	The objective explicitly seeks more sustainable use of energy to improve efficiency.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	+	Through more sustainable use of resources, the objective should have a positive effect on minimising waste and pollution.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		The objective will have a strongly positive effect on more sustainable resource use and improving energy efficiency. Through this it will also have positive effect on many other environmental resources including biodiversity and landscape.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.4.1 a) Manage agricultural production to be consistent with, and enhance, the special qualities of the Park	
Purpose of objective	The farmland of the Park supports many valuable habitats, for example for breeding waders such as lapwing and oyster catchers. Farming methods should be consistent with the conservation of habitats and species present. These should actively seek to maximise the opportunities to create and support habitat networks, enhance the landscape and contribute to the natural heritage of the Park. This includes features that have diminished such as dykes and scrub where appropriate.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives consistent with the Park aims.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including biodiversity which can be strongly influenced by agriculture.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including biodiversity which can be strongly influenced by agriculture.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including the ecosystems which are strongly influenced by agriculture.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including the water environment, which can be strongly influenced by agricultural practices.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including hydrological processes.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including the landscape.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including the opportunities for responsible outdoor access.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure that agricultural activity conserves and enhances the special qualities, including the cultural heritage.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is likely to have a positive effect on the special qualities, especially those that are strongly influenced by agricultural practices, including biodiversity and the water environment.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective		5.4.1 b) Maintain a productive and viable agricultural sector
Purpose of objective		A productive and viable agricultural sector underpins many of the public benefits that land management delivers, particularly some farmland habitats. As well as support for public benefits, it is important for long-term sustainability that agricultural businesses throughout the Park are producing a range of marketable goods.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		No strategic alternatives identified.
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence biodiversity, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence biodiversity, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence ecosystems, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence the water environment, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence hydrology, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence the landscape, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
7. To enable responsible access for all	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence outdoor access, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence the historic environment, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	?	The effects on maintaining a productive and viable agricultural sector may influence waste and pollution, but the effects depend on the nature of management and activities. They are therefore uncertain.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects	The objective may have an effect on a number of environmental resources and issues, but the effects cannot be determined here. They depend on the management and activities undertaken to maintain a viable agricultural sector.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified. This objective should be viewed in the context of other objectives in the plan which seek to ensure that agriculture, while viable, should also conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the environment.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.1 c) Encourage the continued development of crofting	
Purpose of objective	Crofting tenure applies only to the Badenoch and Strathspey area within the Park, where it provides opportunities for small-scale and part-time land management and production in addition to the mainstream farming sector. Crofting in this area helps to maintain people living in rural locations and forms a part of the land-use pattern, particularly around settlements. Outside Badenoch and Strathspey, similar small-scale agricultural activity should be encouraged that will contribute to supporting rural communities and local production.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	Crofting can have benefits to biodiversity, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	Crofting can have benefits to biodiversity, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	Crofting can have benefits to biodiversity, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	Crofting can have benefits to water management, through good management, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	Crofting can have benefits to hydrology, through good management, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	Crofting can have benefits to landscape, through small scale land management, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
7. To enable responsible access for all	?	Crofting can have benefits to access, through management, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.

8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	Crofting can have benefits to the historic environment, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	?	Crofting can contribute to supporting a healthy population, but as the objective is about promotion of the sector as a whole, the environmental effects are uncertain.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is too strategic and broad to be able to predict the likely significant effects. The likely effects of particular management sectors within crofting are assessed to some extent through the sectoral land management objectives.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.1 d) Make available land for those who wish to farm, particularly new-entrants.	
Purpose of objective	The availability of land is a key constraint on the number of new people able to take up farming or crofting. This is the result of many factors including the viability of existing holdings, access to finance and the existing pattern of land holdings. Where possible, assistance in sourcing land for those wishing to farm should be encouraged in locations consistent with good management of the natural and cultural heritage.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	There are no strategic alternatives that would continue to facilitate the development of farming while being consistent with good management of the special qualities.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on biodiversity, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on biodiversity, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on biodiversity, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on the water environment, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on hydrology, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on landscape, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.

7. To enable responsible access for all	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on access, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	The provision of land for farming may have an impact on the historic environment, but this objective is too strategic to be able to assess the likely effects. Effects would depend on the area and location of land.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	+	The objective seeks to support the existence of a healthy and sustainable population in rural areas.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	Beyond giving some support to a sustainable population, the objective is too strategic to be able to predict the likely environmental effects.	
Options for modification or mitigation	There is some mitigation built-into the objective, which requires new land made available to be consistent with the good management of the natural and cultural heritage.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.2 a) Maintain existing native woodland cover and expand to develop habitat networks that complement the landscape character of the Park.	
Purpose of objective	<p>The existing native woodland is an important special quality of the Park, forming a distinctive part of the landscape and biodiversity. The existing native woods should be conserved and expanded, irrespective of whether or not they are listed on the Native Pinewood Register. This is because they all make an important contribution to the Park's natural and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Expansion should establish large-scale habitat networks that enhance their viability and help to encourage species that require large habitat areas in which to thrive. Networks will also enhance the landscape character and non-woodland habitats. In the long-term they could lead to links between the Spey and Dee. Where expansion is through planting rather than natural regeneration, seed of local origin should be used.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	The strategic alternatives of either reducing or maintaining the status quo would not contribute to the aims of the Park.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Native woodlands are a valuable biodiversity resource in the Park and provide habitats for many rare and priority species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Native woodlands are a valuable biodiversity resource in the Park and include habitats comprising many rare and priority species.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Native woodlands are a valuable biodiversity resource in the Park and provides an ecosystem on a scale which is unparalleled in the UK in terms of semi-natural pine woodland.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	=	The objective is likely to be neutral in its impact in the water environment. The management of the water environment is the subject of other objectives.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective is likely to have a positive effect on hydrology as part of flood and erosion control.

6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Native woodlands are an important component of the landscape character. The objective requires any expansion of native woodland to complement this character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	Woodlands are areas of recreation and the maintenance or expansion of the existing native woodlands is likely to have a positive effect on the provision of access opportunities.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	Woodland can either help to protect or can damage archaeological features, depending on the management and knowledge of those features. The likely effects are therefore uncertain.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		The objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the biodiversity and landscape of the Park, two of its special qualities. It may also have a positive effect on other aspects of the environment.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.4.2 b) Support multi-objective woodland management that includes timber production, fuel wood, recreation and nature conservation.	
Purpose of objective	Woodlands can deliver many benefits for both managers and the wider community, ranging from the production of marketable timber to outdoor access and nature conservation. Management of woodlands in the Park should reflect this range of objectives and seek to deliver multiple benefits in each case. Public support for woodland management should focus on delivering these multiple benefits.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	A more single-sector focus to forestry would not bring the desired benefits to integrated management and the aims of the Park.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting nature conservation objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting nature conservation objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting nature conservation objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting nature conservation objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting nature conservation objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting nature conservation objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.

7. To enable responsible access for all	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting outdoor access objectives, but remains a general statement promoting multi-objective forestry. It is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	The objective gives support to management that includes meeting multiple objectives and is therefore likely to have some positive effect.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	As a general support for multi-objective forestry, this objective is likely to have some positive effect on the environment, as a result of environmental objectives being incorporated into management.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.2 c) Encourage a mix of tree species, ages and woodland structure to complement the landscape character of the Park.	
Purpose of objective	The current ratio of native and non-native woodland (approximately 85:15) is a distinctive characteristic of the Park's landscape. There should continue to be a mix of species, age and woodland structure that can deliver the objectives of production, recreation and conservation. The use of locally sourced seed should be promoted. Woodland structure should include dead-wood, a valuable resource for biodiversity.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	There are no strategic alternatives consistent with the aims of the Park and enhancing the special qualities.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The objective specifically seeks a mix of species, age and structure, including dead-wood, which is important to underpinning biodiversity.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The objective specifically seeks a mix of species, age and structure, including dead-wood, which is important to underpinning biodiversity.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The objective specifically seeks a mix of species, age and structure, including dead-wood, which is supports important ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	A mix of appropriate structure is likely to have a positive effect on the water environment through regulating run-off, erosion and flow.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	A mix of appropriate structure is likely to have a positive effect on the catchment processes through regulating run-off, erosion and flow.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	The objective explicitly recognises the relationship between landscape character and the mix and structure of woodlands- it is therefore likely to have a strongly positive effect on landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	=	The objective is unlikely to influence the overall provision or enjoyment of outdoor access, which is the subject of other objectives.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on biodiversity and landscape, which are underpinned by the mix and structure of woodlands. It is also likely to have a positive effect on the water environment through regulating run-off.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.2 d) Encourage a gradation of tree and scrub cover from valley floor to tree-line in targeted areas and the re-development of woodland types that have declined.	
Purpose of objective	<p>Woodland cover in the Cairngorms has generally retreated to a lower altitude than its previous natural extent. In targeted locations identified as part of a strategic approach to a habitat network, the upper tree-line, including scrub cover such as juniper, should be encouraged to extend up to its natural altitudinal limit. This will bring benefits to landscape and biodiversity.</p> <p>The broad leaved woodland community component of the forest has been much reduced, and where it still exists is often under pressure from domestic and wild grazing animals. Forestry strategy should promote the regeneration of remnants, or replanting where appropriate, on suitable sites retaining soils and ground flora and enhancing riparian woodlands. This objective requires particular integration with deer management objectives.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	Alternatives that have less variety of tree and scrub cover would not bring the same level of benefit to biodiversity and landscape.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The gradation of forest types across the altitudinal spectrum will provide important habitats for priority and other species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The gradation of forest types across the altitudinal spectrum will support priority and other habitats, particularly scrub which has declined.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The gradation of forest types across the altitudinal spectrum will provide important habitats for priority and other species, supporting a large scale network of ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	=	The objective is unlikely to influence the water environment in the context of the wider forestry and water objectives
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	=	The objective is unlikely to influence the water environment in the context of the wider forestry and water objectives

6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	The gradation of forest types with altitude, particularly establishment of a natural tree-line in places, will have a strongly positive effect on the existing landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on biodiversity and landscape, through establishment of an appropriate range of habitats that provide niches for a range of species.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective		5.4.2 e) Support the development of local markets, processing and supply chains for forest products.
Purpose of objective		The economic viability of forestry remains key to ensuring the varied benefits of woodlands in the long-term. Opportunities to link producers with processors and customers should be developed to ensure effective supply chains, and markets for timber and value-added products should be supported.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		No strategic alternatives identified.
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.

7. To enable responsible access for all	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	The objective seeks to make more sustainable use of the local woodland resource and develop local supply chains.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	The management of woodlands for produce could have a positive or negative effect, depending on the approach taken and integration with other objectives. The environmental effects of this objective are therefore uncertain.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		This objective is likely to have a positive effect on the sustainable use of local resources, but its wider environmental effects are too uncertain to predict, as they will depend on the other objectives and approach to management.
Options for modification or mitigation		If the objective is implemented in the context of the plan's other objectives, the environmental effects are likely to be positive, or at least neutral. Therefore no further modification or mitigation has been identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.4.2 f) Promote community participation in woodland planning and management and an understanding of local woodland characteristics and distinctiveness.	
Purpose of objective	Many communities have woodland nearby which is used for informal recreation and valued for its amenity. Woodland management also offers potential economic and social benefits to communities through local contracting, use and marketing of timber products, and education and interpretation. Communities should also be able to inform forest policy development and contribute to the objectives and planning for forest policy in order to maximise the local benefits.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective refers to a means by which a number of other objectives can be pursued. In itself, it does not influence the SEA objectives.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.3 a) Maintain extensive moorlands as a high value and sustainable resource for nature conservation, sport, agriculture, landscape and recreation.	
Purpose of objective	The grazing and trampling of deer and agricultural stock, combined with burning can have a significant impact on moorland vegetation, including heather regeneration. Through carefully planned grazing and muirburn regimes, the landscape, biodiversity and sporting benefits of moorland can be optimised. Active management of moorlands, including stock and game, disease and tick control, and infrastructure is needed to deliver the potential benefits which in turn support local communities and employment.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The objective explicitly seeks to manage moorlands for nature conservation benefit, which will support a number of priority and other species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The objective explicitly seeks to manage moorlands for nature conservation benefit, which will support a number of priority and other habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The objective explicitly seeks to manage moorlands for nature conservation benefit, which will support extensive moorland ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Good management of moorlands is likely to have a positive effect on the water environment through managing grazing and vegetation cover.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Good management of moorlands is likely to have a positive effect on catchments, of which moorlands form a significant part, through managing grazing and vegetation cover.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	Moorlands are a key component of the existing landscape character, and management which recognises this is likely to have a strongly positive effect on landscape qualities.
7. To enable responsible access for all	++	The objective seeks to management moorlands for recreation benefits as well as others. Moorlands are an important and extensive outdoor access resource in the Park.

8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	Good management of moorlands will be aware of and respect elements of the historic environment that are present.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on biodiversity, landscape and outdoor access, through encouraging an approach to moorland management, which affects and extensive area of the Park, that delivers benefits for all these areas.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.3 b) Demonstrate and enhance the links between moorland management and biodiversity.	
Purpose of objective	The moorland habitat is an internationally significant biodiversity resource. The profile of this resource amongst managers and the public should be increased, so that moorland management, and the understanding of it, can recognise and improve the opportunities to benefit biodiversity. Management for grouse should respect the full moorland ecosystem.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	Alternatives would not bring the same benefits to awareness and understanding of the moorland resource, with consequent benefits for biodiversity.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The objective is mainly about processes, but it is likely to have a positive effect on priority moorland species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective is mainly about processes, but it is likely to have a positive effect on priority moorland habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The objective is mainly about processes, but it is likely to have a positive effect on moorland ecosystems through enhanced management.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The objective is mainly about processes, but it is likely to have a positive effect on the water environment through enhanced management.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective is mainly about processes, but it is likely to have a positive effect on catchment processes through enhanced management.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective is mainly about processes, but it is likely to have a positive effect on landscape through enhanced management.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective focuses principally on management processes and awareness, but it is likely to have some positive effect through enhanced moorland management.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.3 c) Manage the interaction of moorlands with surrounding land-uses to maintain the integrity of the moorland landscape, ecosystems and hydrology.	
Purpose of objective	Individual moorlands cannot be managed in isolation. The extent of ecosystems and hydrology associated with moorlands means that they need to be managed on a large scale, and integrated with neighbouring woodland edges and other habitat networks.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	Through supporting integrated habitat networks, this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on priority and other moorland/moorland edge species.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	Through supporting integrated habitat networks, this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on priority and other moorland/moorland edge habitats.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	Through supporting integrated habitat networks, this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on priority and other moorland/moorland edge ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks to take into account, and therefore benefit, the hydrology of moorlands and impacts on the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	++	The objective explicitly seeks to take into account, and therefore benefit, the hydrology of moorlands and impacts on catchment management.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	By taking an integrated approach to managing moorlands with their surroundings, their landscape character is likely to be enhanced.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective, through setting moorland management in the wider context, is likely to have a strongly positive benefit to biodiversity, water environment and the landscape character, by taking account of the interactions and linkages.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.4 a) Manage deer populations at densities consistent with the special natural heritage qualities of the Park, particularly native woodland, montane and moorland habitats.	
Purpose of objective	Deer are an essential part in the functioning of many of the Park's habitats, and need to be present within the carrying capacity of the land. However, deer can have an adverse impact on some habitats through over-grazing and trampling. Management of deer populations should be based on regular assessments of habitat impact, co-ordinated at the level of biological populations and maintained at levels that do not cause significant adverse impact to habitats.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	There are no strategic alternatives consistent with the aims of the Park.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure deer management is consistent with the natural heritage qualities, including priority species, through managing grazing, browsing and trampling impacts.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure deer management is consistent with the natural heritage qualities, including priority habitats, through managing grazing, browsing and trampling impacts.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure deer management is consistent with the natural heritage qualities, including ecosystems, through managing grazing, browsing and trampling impacts.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	Through managing deer in a way integrated with the habitats and natural heritage qualities, including grazing regimes, the effect on the water environment is likely to be positive.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	Through managing deer in a way integrated with the habitats and natural heritage qualities, particularly avoiding over-grazing around water courses, the effect on the catchment management is likely to be positive.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective explicitly seeks to ensure deer management is consistent with the natural heritage qualities, including landscape, through managing grazing, browsing and trampling impacts.

7. To enable responsible access for all	=	This objective is unlikely to influence outdoor access provision and enjoyment.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		Through managing the impacts of deer on the natural heritage, this objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on biodiversity, with positive effects on other aspects of the natural environment.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective		5.4.4 b) Encourage co-ordination of deer management across the Park.
Purpose of objective		As deer move across ownership and management boundaries throughout the Park, their management needs to be co-ordinated. There are opportunities to develop the existing collaboration of Deer Management Groups to include managers, communities and public agencies, to further co-ordinate the planning and implementation of management and address issues at a scale appropriate to deer populations.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		No strategic alternatives identified.
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.

5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
7. To enable responsible access for all	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.

12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	?	The environmental effects of more co-ordinated deer management in itself are difficult to predict, as they will depend on the objectives of that co-ordinated management. Although the effects should be positive in the light of other objectives in the plan, the results of this objective remain uncertain.
Summary of effects	The effects of this objective are at this point uncertain, as it is principally a means to achieving other objectives. It should therefore help to achieve positive effects, but these cannot be predicted at this stage.	
Options for modification or mitigation	If this objective is pursued in the context of the plan's other objectives, the effects should be positive. No further modification or mitigation identified.	

Park Plan Objective		5.4.4 c) Maintain and enhance the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource.
Purpose of objective		Deer management contributes significantly to the economy of the Park and provides employment, direct and indirect, often in the more remote areas. The skills and expertise of deer managers are important to the management of the Park and their roles often support communities in remote areas.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		Strategic alternatives would not maximise the socio-economic benefit as well as the natural heritage benefits of deer management, in line with the aims of the Park.
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.

4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.
7. To enable responsible access for all	?	Enhancing the socio-economic sustainability of the deer resource may benefit biodiversity as well, through increased resources for active management. However, this objective could also be pursued in ways that do not necessarily enhance the natural environment. The intention of the objective is to complement the others of the plan, in which case the effects should be positive, but it is not possible to predict with any certainty the likely effects of it at this stage.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	Although it is the intention of this objective to enhance the socio-economic benefits of deer management alongside the natural heritage benefits, the effects depend largely on the approaches taken to do this- which are covered by other objectives in the plan. The likely effects of this objective therefore remain uncertain at this stage.	
Options for modification or mitigation	If this objective is pursued in the context of the other objectives in the plan, then the effects should be positive. No further modification or mitigation is identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.4 d) Research, make accessible and use the best available data on habitat impacts, population models and good practice to inform deer management planning.	
Purpose of objective	Deer management should be based as far as possible on sound data and evidence. Existing sources of data should be collated and be easily accessible to managers and others, to develop greater understanding of the issues and impacts of management, and promote informed debate.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.

5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.
7. To enable responsible access for all	?	The provision of data should help to achieve good management, but the effects of this objective depend on how the data is used. The effects of this objective cannot therefore be predicted with any certainty, although it should be read as complementary to the other objectives in the plan.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		Information is a management tool, and the likely effects therefore depend on its use. Although the intention of this objective is that the information should inform good management, its likely effects cannot be predicted with any certainty.
Options for modification or mitigation		This objective supports delivery of the other objectives in the plan and should therefore have a positive effect if pursued in this context. No further modification or mitigation identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.4.4 e) Where deer fencing is considered appropriate, minimise the impacts on public safety, deer welfare, biodiversity, landscape, cultural heritage and recreation.	
Purpose of objective	Deer fencing can serve a useful purpose, but its potential negative impacts should be considered and minimised. Decisions on whether fencing is appropriate should refer to the Joint Agency Statement and Guidance on Deer Fencing adopted by public agencies in 2004 as a starting point. Fencing should only be used as part of a wider management plan and should remain in place only as long as necessary. Further guidance on appropriate use of fencing should be developed.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	?	Deer fencing can have either a positive or negative impact on biodiversity, through for example, habitat regeneration, or on the other hand, bird-strike. The effects can only be determined on an individual site basis. Therefore the effects of this objective remain uncertain at this stage.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	?	Deer fencing can have either a positive or negative impact on habitats, through grazing control. The effects can only be determined on an individual site basis. Therefore the effects of this objective remain uncertain at this stage.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	?	Deer fencing can have either a positive or negative impact on ecosystems, through grazing control. The effects can only be determined on an individual site basis. Therefore the effects of this objective remain uncertain at this stage.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	?	Deer fencing can have either a positive or negative impact on habitats, and therefore landscape. The effects can only be determined on an individual site basis. Therefore the effects of this objective remain uncertain at this stage.

7. To enable responsible access for all	=	Deer fencing can impede access, but if properly managed provision for access is made (gates or stiles) in the context of other objectives, then the effect should be neutral.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	?	Deer fencing can have either a positive or negative impact on the historic environment, through control of grazing and trampling. The effects can only be determined on an individual site basis. Therefore the effects of this objective remain uncertain at this stage.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects		Deer fencing can have either a positive or negative impact on many natural heritage features through control of grazing, browsing and trampling. Its effects can only be determined according to condition of each site, and therefore at a strategic level, the likely effects of this objective on many aspects remain uncertain.
Options for modification or mitigation		If pursued as part of a management plan which takes into account the potential impacts as set out in the objective, no further modification or mitigation is identified as necessary.

Park Plan Objective	5.4.5 a) Encourage co-ordination of fisheries management at river system and catchment level.	
Purpose of objective	<p>The issues affecting river fisheries within the Park, including the proliferation of invasive weed species, non-native fish and the need for broader integration of fisheries management with the positive management of riparian habitats, surrounding land-uses and recreation requires co-ordination at the scale of catchments and river systems between river managers and with other interests.</p> <p>Building on the existing work of District Fishery Boards, management should support the implementation of Catchment Management Plans through regulation and incentive schemes, education, awareness and targeted initiatives for specific issues.</p>	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The objective seeks to improve the process of river fisheries management in order to help conserve and enhance biodiversity.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective seeks to improve the process of river fisheries management in order to help conserve and enhance biodiversity.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The objective seeks to improve the process of river fisheries management in order to help conserve and enhance biodiversity.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The objective seeks to improve the process of river fisheries management in order to help conserve and enhance the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective seeks to improve the process of river fisheries management to take account of catchment scale processes.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	Improved management of river systems is likely to have a positive effect on their contribution to the landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	Improved co-ordination of management should help to manage the multiple uses of rivers, including the interactions of outdoor access with other uses.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	Through improved co-ordination of river management, the effects on biodiversity, the water environment, catchment management, the landscape and outdoor access should be positive.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4.5 b) Encourage removal and minimisation of physical barriers that impede passage of fish and affect river flow.	
Purpose of objective	There are a number of barriers and physical deterrents to fish migration within rivers which can also alter the river habitat and structure through erosion and deposition. Where not required for current use, these barriers should be removed and their impact on the river flow minimised, in consultation with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. Fisheries should be managed as a part of naturally functioning dynamic river systems.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	The alternative of continuing to retain or increase barriers would not achieve the same results for biodiversity and hydrology.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The objective specifically seeks to remove barriers that affect fish passage or habitat composition in rivers, thereby having a strongly positive effect on priority and other species in rivers.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective specifically seeks to remove barriers that affect habitat composition in rivers, thereby having a strongly positive effect on priority and other habitats in rivers.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The objective specifically seeks to remove barriers that affect fish passage or habitat composition in rivers, thereby having a strongly positive effect on river ecosystems.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	The objective specifically seeks to remove artificial barriers thereby having a strongly positive effect on the water environment
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The removal of artificial barriers will have a positive effect on natural river processes and hydrology.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	=	The objective unlikely to influence the overall provision/enjoyment of river access.

8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a strongly positive effect on biodiversity and the water environment as a result of the removal of unnecessary artificial structures.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4 a) Maintain and enhance a viable land management sector that delivers private and public objectives and enhances the special qualities of the Park.	
Purpose of objective	The ongoing management of the land underpins many of the qualities for which the Park is valued. A vibrant land management sector that supports private enterprise and employment and provides active management is a key means to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the Park and deliver other benefits for the public.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the natural heritage, through land management.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the natural heritage, through land management.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the natural heritage, through land management.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the natural heritage, through land management.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the natural heritage, through land management.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the landscape, through land management.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the opportunities for responsible access, through land management.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	=	If pursued in conjunction with other objectives the effects of maintaining a viable land management sector should at least be neutral, if not positive.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	The objective makes explicit reference to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, which include the cultural heritage, through land management.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	?	Through good management of resources and land management activities, waste and pollution could be reduced, but as this objective does not directly address this, the effect is uncertain.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective contributes to conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park, including the natural and cultural heritage.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4 b) Integrate support for all land and water management activities to deliver public benefits that conserve and enhance the special qualities of the Park.	
Purpose of objective	Land management can deliver many public benefits, such as access infrastructure, nature conservation or education. These are benefits that the public enjoy and use, but which have a cost attached to their provision and management. Currently there is a range of public support measures for land managers. In the future these should be targeted at delivering benefits that are relevant to the Park area, transparent in what they buy, straight-forward for managers to access and integrated across the varied land management sectors.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	There are no strategic alternatives that would work collectively towards the Park aims.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the natural heritage.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the natural heritage.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the natural heritage.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the natural heritage.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the natural heritage.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the landscape.

7. To enable responsible access for all	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the outdoor access opportunities.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	++	The objective is directly aimed at ensuring land management activities conserve and enhance the special qualities, including the cultural heritage.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective is aims specifically at conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the Park and therefore is likely to have a strongly positive effect on the natural and cultural heritage.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4 c) Develop and promote best practice in land and water management and its interactions with people and other land-uses.	
Purpose of objective	Land managers and public agencies should work together with local communities and other interests, to ensure that land and water management in the Park is an example of best practice. It should take into account the range of objectives and the interactions of different land-uses, outdoor access and local communities.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the natural heritage.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the natural heritage.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the natural heritage.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the water environment.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the natural processes.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the landscape.
7. To enable responsible access for all	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management addresses the interactions with outdoor access and is responsible.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	+	The objective seeks best practice in land and water management, which includes ensuring management at least conserves, if not enhances, the cultural heritage.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective
Summary of effects		Through promotion of best practice in land and water management, this objective is likely to have positive impact on the natural and cultural heritage of the Park, as well as outdoor access.
Options for modification or mitigation		None identified.

Park Plan Objective	5.4 d) Develop collaboration and communication between statutory agencies, land managers, non-governmental organisations, voluntary groups, communities and other interests.	
Purpose of objective	The interactions between land management, the natural heritage and the economy of the Park requires all sectors to work together, share information and be pro-active in developing understanding and best practice in land management. Agencies and land managers should share information and management plans with local communities and each other.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	This objective seeks to influence behaviour and process amongst the various stakeholders in land management. As such, it does not in itself influence the SEA objectives.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4 e) Develop local supply chains and markets for local produce.	
Purpose of objective	The local consumption of local produce offers many benefits including enhanced viability of production, a greater share of the value captured for producers and businesses within the Park, and a reduced need to transport goods over long distances. Currently there are weak links in the supply chains for local processing and marketing which need to be addressed.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	Alternatives would not bring the socio-economic and environmental benefits of local production that are sought.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	+	The development of local supply chains is likely to reduce the need for transporting produce over long distances, thereby cutting emissions.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	The objective encourages greater use of local resources.

10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	+	Through greater use of local resources, transport and energy use should be reduced.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is likely to have a positive effect on energy efficiency and sustainable resource use, through reducing the need to transport goods over long distances.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.4 f) Reduce waste, energy use and pollution from all land management activities.	
Purpose of objective	All land management activities should actively seek ways to minimise waste, energy use and pollution. Where pollution incidents do occur, managers should have the necessary plans and infrastructure to deal with them quickly and effectively and minimise adverse impacts.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	+	A reduction in waste and pollution is likely to have a positive effect on conserving and enhancing biodiversity.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	+	A reduction in waste and pollution is likely to have a positive effect on conserving and enhancing biodiversity.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	+	A reduction in waste and pollution is likely to have a positive effect on conserving and enhancing biodiversity.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	+	A reduction in waste and pollution is likely to have a positive effect on conserving and enhancing biodiversity.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	+	The objective seeks to reduce pollution from land management activity, including vehicle emissions.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	+	The objective seeks to reduce waste, which includes a greater role for recycling and reusing, contributing to more sustainable use of resources.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	+	The objective explicitly seeks to reduce energy use associated with land management.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	++	The objective is directly about reducing waste and pollution and therefore is likely to have a strongly positive effect on this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective is likely to have a strongly positive effect on reducing waste and pollution from land management and also contribute to more sustainable use of resources.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.5.1 a) Develop a sound knowledge and understanding of the archaeological, historic and built environment resources.	
Purpose of objective	There is a wide range of archaeological and built heritage across the Park that contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and character of the Park, but knowledge of the range and state of these resources is patchy and is not easily available.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	A greater understanding of the historic environment will include the historic landscape, helping to conserve and enhance those elements of the landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks greater understanding of the historic environment, to inform its good management.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	++	An understanding of the historic environment will include an understanding of the historic built environment, and how it can be conserved and enhanced.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a strongly positive effect on the historic and built environment, and to some extent a positive effect on landscape character through greater understanding.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.5.1 b) Conserve and enhance the resources of the archaeological, historic and built environment.	
Purpose of objective	The physical heritage needs greater repair and maintenance to secure its long-term conservation and enhancement. It also requires the maintenance of traditional skills to care for these resources, many of which have declined.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The archaeological, historic and built environment all contribute to the landscape character of the Park, and conservation of these resources will help to conserve the landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks to conserve and enhance the resources of the historic environment.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks to conserve and enhance the historic built environment.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a strongly positive effect on the historic and built environments, and to some extent on the landscape character through conserving and enhancing the resources of the historic environment.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.5.1 c) Promote awareness and interpretation of the value of the archaeological, historic and built environment.	
Purpose of objective	A greater awareness of the range and value of the built and historic environment is important to underpin the long-term conservation and enhancement and future development. It also plays an important role in understanding the history of the Park and how the qualities we value today came into being.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The archaeological, historic and built environment all contribute to the landscape character of the Park, and greater awareness these resources will help to conserve the landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks greater awareness of the resources of the historic environment, which is necessary for protection.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	++	The objective explicitly seeks greater awareness of the historic built environment, which is needed for its conservation.
Summary of effects	The objective will have a strongly positive effect on the historic and built environment, and to some extent landscape character, through a greater awareness of these resources to underpin their conservation and enhancement.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.5.1 d) New development and management of public space in settlements should complement and enhance the character, pattern and local identity of the built and historic environment.	
Purpose of objective	The existing settlements and their surroundings have distinctive local character and identity. New development should complement and demonstrate an understanding of this. It should enhance the local identity, public space and surrounding environment.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	Alternatives would not bring the same integrated approach in working towards the aims of Park collectively.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	+	The objective seeks for development to enhance the historic environment, and the surrounding environment, which contribute to the broader landscape character.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	++	The objective seeks for new development to complement the historic environment, giving a strong basis for its conservation and enhancement.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	++	The objective seeks to ensure new development complements the existing built character and pattern, helping to conserve and enhance the built heritage.
Summary of effects	The objective has a strongly positive effect on the historic and built environment through seeking to ensure that new development complements these settings, and thereby also having a positive effect on landscape character.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective	5.5.2 a) Develop a sound knowledge and understanding of the cultural traditions associated with the Park's places and communities.	
Purpose of objective	Knowledge and understanding of the cultural heritage and traditions in the Park is often patchy, or specific to particular individuals, communities or places. There is a need to develop a sound knowledge of the cultural heritage of the Park. These include arts and crafts, language, folklore, dance and other traditions in order to inform improved communication and co-operation between those involved in conserving and promoting cultural heritage in the Park.	
Consideration of options and alternatives so far	No strategic alternatives identified.	
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective does not influence the SEA objectives.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	

Park Plan Objective		5.5.2 b) Support and promote the diverse cultural traditions of communities within the Park.
Purpose of objective		The diversity of cultural traditions within the Park forms a key part of its identity. As well as being closely linked with community life, the cultural heritage of the Park is also one of the qualities visitors to the area can enjoy. The promotion of local cultural heritage and traditions by communities and others should be supported.
Consideration of options and alternatives so far		No strategic alternatives identified.
Prediction of likely effects		
SEA Objectives	Score	Reasoning for Score
1. To conserve & enhance the diversity of species	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
2. To conserve & enhance the diversity of habitats	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
3. To maintain & enhance the integrity of ecosystems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
4. To conserve & enhance the water environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
5. To respect catchment processes & hydrological systems	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
6. To maintain & enhance the distinctive landscape character of the Park	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
7. To enable responsible access for all	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
8. To maintain and improve air quality	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
9. To use natural resources/material assets in a sustainable way	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
10. To conserve & where appropriate enhance the historic environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.

11. To support a sustainable and healthy population	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
12. To improve sustainable energy efficiency	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
13. To minimise waste and pollution	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
14. To maintain & enhance the quality of the built environment	/	Does not influence this SEA objective.
Summary of effects	The objective does not influence the SEA objectives.	
Options for modification or mitigation	None identified.	