
PLANNING

Cairngorms National Park

Local Development Plan 2020

**Strategic Environmental Assessment
Environmental Report November 2020**

Cover Note

PART 1

To: SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
or
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PART 2

An SEA Environmental Report is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan
2020

The Responsible Authority is:

Cairngorms National Park Authority

PART 3

Please tick the appropriate box



The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. **or**



The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. **or**



The PPS does not require an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, as this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 5 week timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

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List of Abbreviations

2000 Act	National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000	NH ₃	Ammonia
2005 Act	Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	NMVOC	Non-methane volatile organic compound
ABD	Aberdeenshire	NNR	National Nature Reserve
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
BARR	Buildings at Risk Register	NO _x	Nitrogen oxides
BGS	British Geological Society	NPF	National Planning Framework
CA	Consultation Authority	NPPP	National Park Partnership Plan
CNAP	Cairngorms Nature Action Plan	NRS	National Records of Scotland
CNP	Cairngorms National Park	NSA	National Scenic Area
CNPA	Cairngorms National Park Authority	O ₃	Ground-level ozone
EEC	European Economic Community	ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	PKC	Perth and Kinross Council
EU	European Union	PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter with particles with a diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less
FWPM	freshwater pearl mussel	PM ₁₀	Particulate matter with particles with a diameter of 10 micrometres or less
GCR	Geological Conservation Review	PPS	Plans, Programmes and Strategies
GP	General Practitioner	pSPA	Potential Special Protection Area
Ha	hectares	PVA	Potentially Vulnerable Area
HES	Historic Environment Scotland	RCAHMS	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
JSA	Job Seekers Allowance	RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
LDP	Local Development Plan		
MW	Megawatts		

SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SIMD	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivations
SM	Scheduled Monument
SO ₂	Sulphur dioxide
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPP	Scottish Planning Policy
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SW	Scottish Water
SWWI	Strathspey Wetlands and Waders Initiative
TTWA	Travel To Work Area
WFD	Water Framework Directive
UK	United Kingdom
UKBAP	United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan
UK GAP	United Kingdom Geodiversity Action Plan
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Education
WLA	Wild Land Area

A glossary of terms may be found in **Appendix 8** (p. 328).

Non-Technical Summary

Introduction

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan (LDP) is a statutory requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. SEA is a systematic process developed to ensure that potential environmental impacts of Plans, Programmes and Strategies (PPS) (both positive and negative) are assessed and considered during the course of their preparation.

This section presents a non-technical summary of the SEA Environmental Report of the Local Development Plan 2020, updated to take account of modifications required following examination of the proposed LDP by Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA). The Environmental Report contains the findings of the environmental assessment, which establishes the likely significant (positive and negative) environmental effects of implementing the LDP.

Summary of the LDP Process

The LDP is the spatial planning document that will set out the National Park Authority's policies and proposals for the use and development of land across the Cairngorms National Park over the 5 to 10 years from its adoption. It is mainly concerned with the use of land and will guide future development to the most appropriate locations.

The LDP provides clear guidance on what development will or will not be allowed and where, and it addresses a wide range of policy issues, including housing, shopping, business, industry, transport, recreation, and built and natural heritage.

Summary of the SEA Process

SEA aims to:

- integrate environmental factors into LDP preparation and decision making;
- improve LDP and enhance environmental protection;

- increase public participation in decision making; and
- facilitate openness and transparency of decision making.

The SEA process is divided into five main stages which are:

- Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope;
- Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects;
- Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report.
- Stage D: Consulting on the proposed LDP and its Environmental Report; then updating the SEA following examination of the LDP, and
- Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the LDP.

The Environmental Report sets out the findings after Stages C and D, but prior to Stage E. To assist this process of the work has been categorised into 8 topic areas designed to provide a wide and detailed

coverage of the environmental issues across National Park. These topics are:

- Topic 1: Climatic Factors
- Topic 2: Air
- Topic 3: Water
- Topic 4: Soil
- Topic 5: Material Asset
- Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora
- Topic 7: Landscape and Cultural Heritage
- Topic 8: Population and Human Health

Summary of SEA Objectives

Proposed SEA Objectives have been developed as a result of the review of PPS (**Policy Context**, p. 11) and baseline information (**Baseline**, p. 12). Identifying objectives is an important part of the SEA process as these are used as the primary tool for testing an emerging LDP to ensure it will not result in any significant environmental effects. This process is referred to as the assessment stage (Stage B). At the Scoping Stage of the SEA, it is only necessary to publish 'proposed' SEA Objectives to allow the Consultation

Authorities to offer feedback during the consultation of the Scoping Report.

The SEA Objectives have been separated into 'main' and 'sub' objectives. It is important that the assessment process is proportional, practical and manageable. Consequently, the assessment process will utilise the 'main' SEA Objectives, but take account of the SEA Sub-Objectives. This distinction is important to ensure the assessment work is practical and achievable. The SEA Objectives for the SEA of the Cairngorms National Park LDP are shown in **Table 4** (p. 21).

Summary of the Assessment

Generally, the Policies scored well in the assessment (**Table 6** and **Table 8**). Only one likely significant adverse effects was identified, which was a site based issue and appropriate mitigation identified.

Some minor adverse effects were predicted, these mostly being linked to the settlement strategy and economic growth, and the land-take associated with these. These effects did not result in the need to

make significant changes to the Proposed Plan. Mitigation measures were identified that address potential negative effects (**Table 11**).

Table 1 Summary of SEA's conclusions.

Long Term Significance	Count	%
++	51	7.7%
+	116	17.6%
□	427	64.8%
?	46	7.0%
-	18	2.7%
--	1	0.2%

Summary of Consultation Steps

The SEA Environmental Report was consulted on for a period of 15 weeks between 17th November 2017 and 2nd March 2018. The development of the proposed LDP and the environmental assessment took place between March 2018 and November 2018. Following consultation on the Environmental Report, the CNPA considered comments received and amended the proposed LDP and SEA

where appropriate. The proposed LDP was submitted to the DPEA for examination in September 2019, with the examination report issued in August 2020. The SEA has been updated to take account of the modifications to the LDP identified in the examination report.

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“The objective of this Directive is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

Directive 2001/42/EC

Introduction

What is a Strategic Environmental Assessment?¹

As part of the preparation of the Cairngorms Local Development Plan (LDP), Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) is required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). SEA is a systematic method for considering the likely environmental effects of certain Plans, Programmes or Strategies (PPS). SEA aims to:

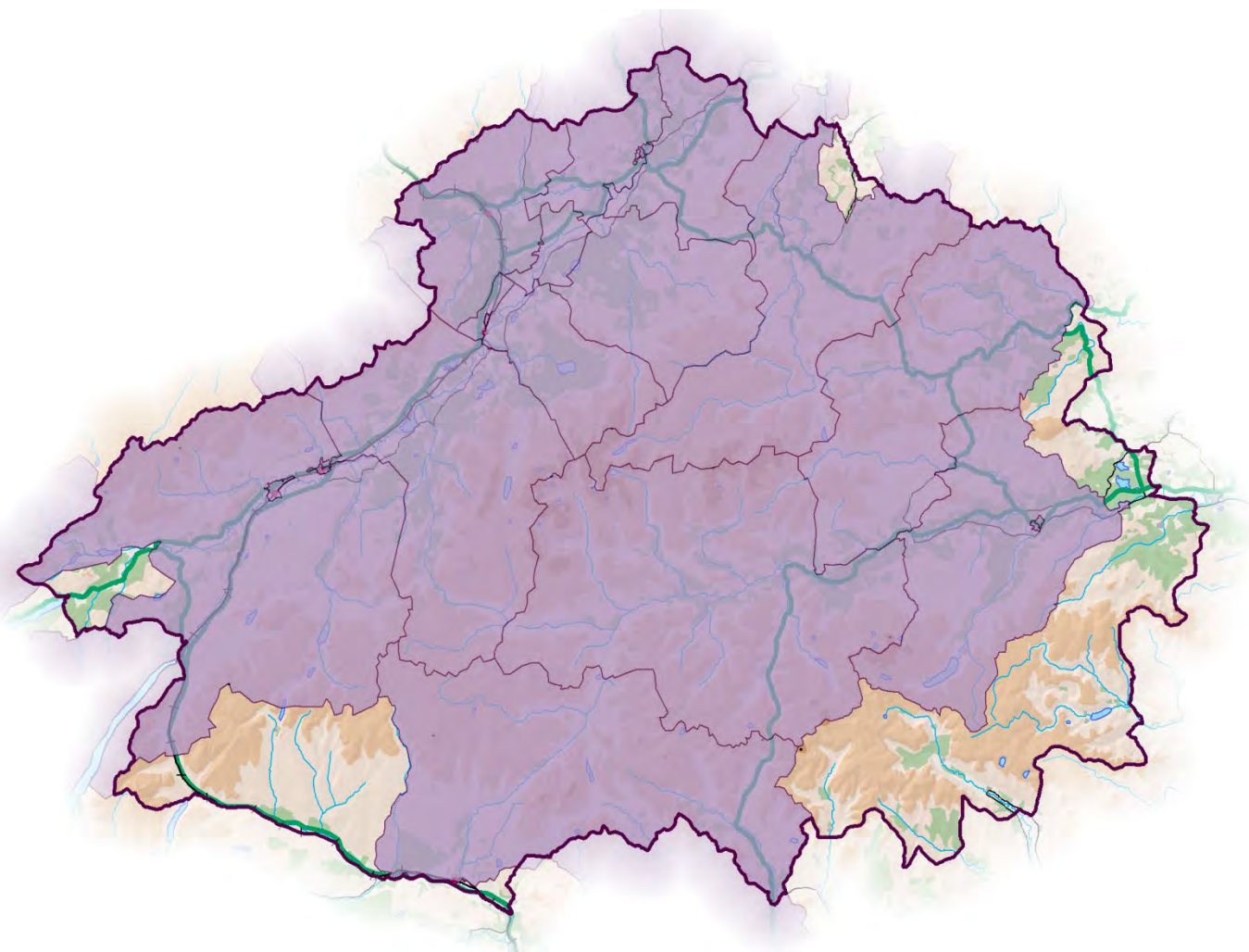
- integrate environmental factors into PPS preparation and decision making;
- improve PPS and enhance environmental protection;
- increase public participation in decision making; and
- facilitate openness and transparency of decision making.

¹ A glossary of terms used in this report is provided in Appendix 8.

The SEA process is divided into five main stages which are:

- Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope;
- Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects;
- Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report.
- Stage D: Consulting on the draft LDP and its Environmental Report; and
- Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the LDP.

2001 Scottish Data Zones	Aberdeenshire	S01000301
		S01000303
		S01000312
		S01000316
		S01000360



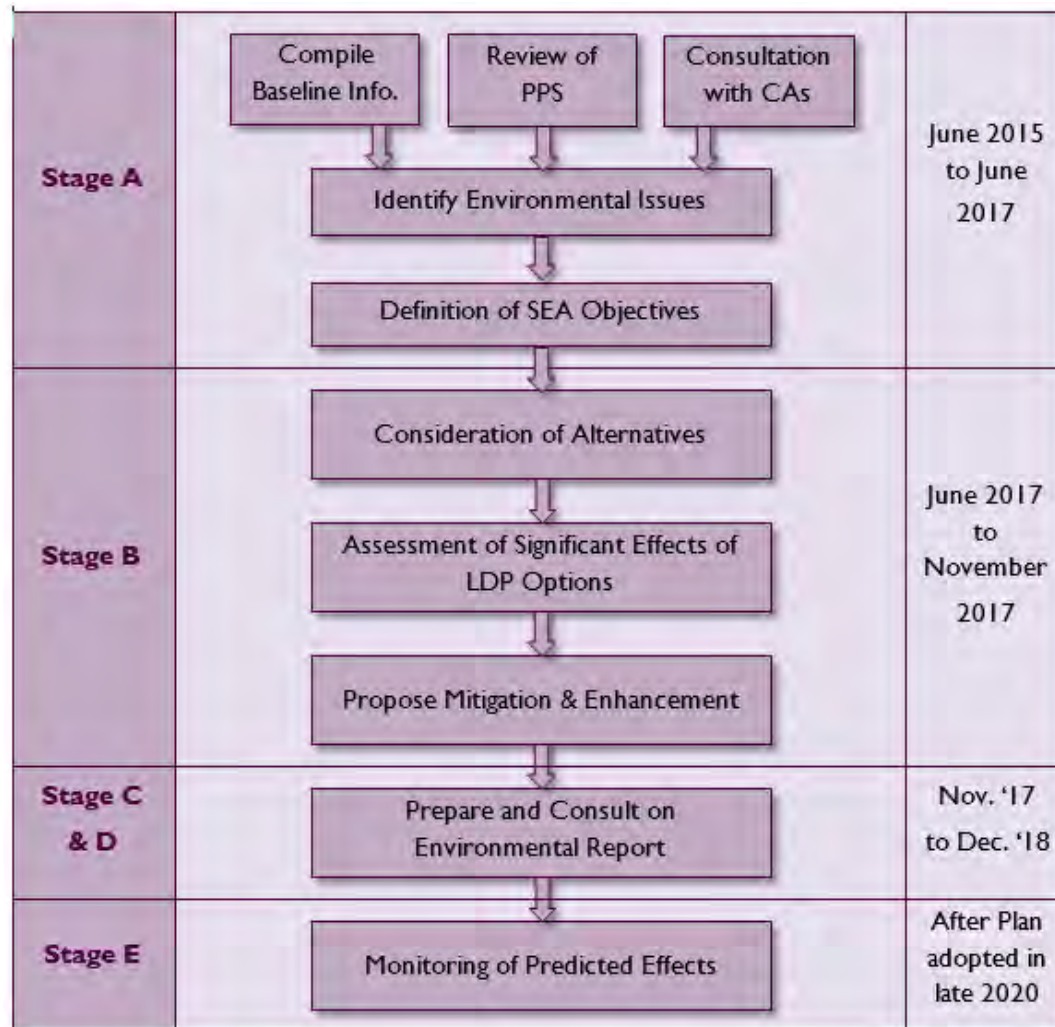
	Highland	S01003743
		S01003747
		S01003748
		S01003749
		S01003750
		S01003751
		S01003754
		S01003755
		S01003756
		S01003759
		S01003760
		S01003764
		S01003766
		S01003767
		S01003771
		S01003772
	Moray	S01004233
	PKC	S01005147

Figure 179 2001 Scottish Data Zones
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provides details of the actions required during these stages as well as the indicative timetable for their completion alongside the production of the LDP.

It is also necessary for CNPA to undertake a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) in accordance with the The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended). The HRA is reported separately but has been used to inform the preparation of both the LDP and the SEA.

Figure 1 Stages of the SEA of the Cairngorms National Park LDP and its indicative timetable.



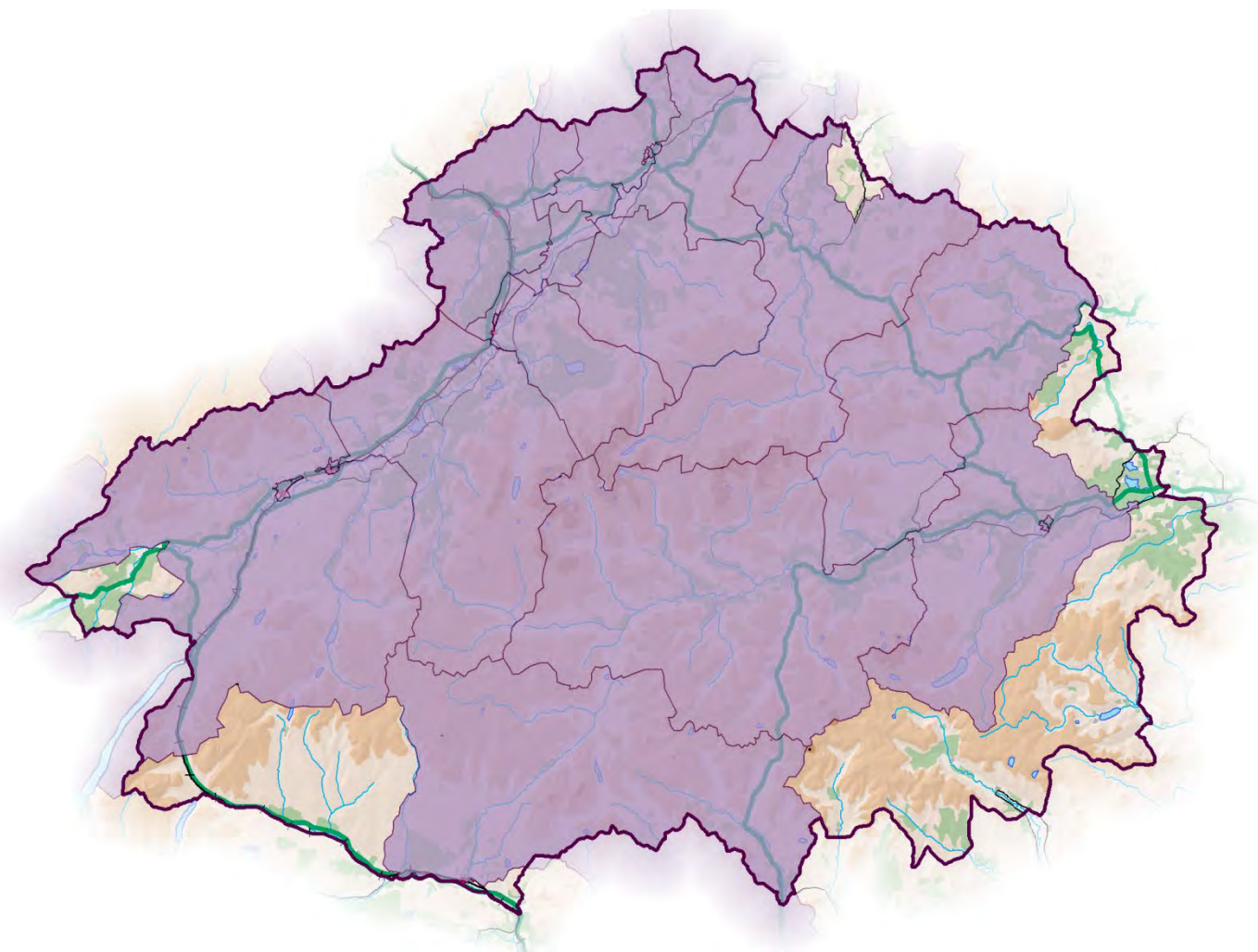
What is an Environmental Report?

“The assessment establishes the likely significant (positive and negative) environmental effects of implementing a plan. The effects of a plan and any potential reasonable alternatives should be considered at this stage, along with viable mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset adverse effects.”

SEA Guidance
(Scottish Government, 2013)

This is the ‘Environmental Report’ for the SEA of the Cairngorms National Park LDP. It presents the findings of **Stages C and D** of the SEA process (see [Error! Reference source not found.](#)

2001 Scottish Data Zones	Aberdeenshire	S01000301
		S01000303
		S01000312
		S01000316
		S01000360



	Highland	S01003743
		S01003747
		S01003748
		S01003749
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		S01003756
		S01003759
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		S01003764
		S01003766
		S01003767
		S01003771
		S01003772
	Moray	S01004233
	PKC	S01005147

Figure 179 2001 Scottish Data Zones
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), updated to take account of modifications required following examination of the proposed LDP by DPEA. The Environmental Report contains the findings of the environmental assessment, which establishes the likely significant (positive and negative) environmental effects of implementing the LDP.

The Cairngorms National Park

The Cairngorms National Park was designated in 2003 by the Scottish Parliament because it satisfied the conditions for a National Park as set out in the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000.

The National Park is the UK's largest, with a total land area of some 4,528km². Dominated by mountain plateau, it boasts extensive moorland, forest and straths and is home to around 25% of the UK's threatened bird, animal and plant species. Approximately 18,000 people live in the National Park and it welcomes around 1.4 million visitors each year.

The general purpose of the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA), as set out in the 2000 Act, is to ensure that the National Park aims are collectively achieved in a co-ordinated way. CNPA is therefore an enabling organisation that must work with and through other bodies to bring added value to the management of the National Park, to achieve the four aims.

The aims of the National Park are:

- to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area;
- to promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area;
- to promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public;
- to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

If it appears to the Park Authority that there is conflict between the first aim and the others, the first aim must be given greater weight.

Planning in the Cairngorms National Park

Planning in the Cairngorms National Park is unique. It involves CNPA working alongside the five local authorities which operate in the National Park – Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, Moray and Perth & Kinross. The

LDP together with any Supplementary Guidance sets the detailed policies and proposals for the whole of the National Park. It is the document against which all planning applications will be judged.

Planning applications are submitted to the relevant local authority in the normal manner. The local authority ensures all the necessary information is supplied and registers receipt of the application. The CNPA is informed by the local authority and then decides whether to call-in the application. Only applications which are of general significance to the aims of the National Park are called in and determined by the CNPA. The local authority determines those applications not called-in. The Local Development Plan applies to all planning applications, regardless of whether they are called-in or not.

The Local Development Plan

The CNPA is required to prepare an LDP for the Cairngorms National Park under the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006. This is the second LDP for the Cairngorms National Park, the first having been adopted on 27th March 2015. The Act requires the LDP to set out where most new development will happen and include policies that will guide decision making on planning applications. It also requires that the LDP be updated every five years, therefore the 2020 LDP updates and replaces the 2015 LDP.

The LDP falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. It has potential to generate significant environmental effects and so a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is being undertaken.

The key facts relating to the adopted LDP are set out in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Key Facts about the LDP.

Responsible Authority	Cairngorms National Park Authority
Title of PPS	Local Development Plan
Purpose of PPS	<p>The Local Development Plan (LDP) is a land use planning document that will set out the National Park's policies and proposals for the use and development of land across the Cairngorms National Park over at least the next 10 years. It will mainly be concerned with the use of land and will guide future development to the most appropriate locations.</p> <p>The LDP will provide clear guidance on what development will or will not be allowed and where, and it will address a wide range of policy issues, including housing, shopping, business, industry, transport, recreation, and built and natural heritage.</p>
What prompted the PPS?	<p>Planning Authorities are required to prepare a LDP under Section 2 of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.</p> <p>Planning Authorities must from time to time review their NPPs and, if thought fit, prepare an amended Plan. The review, which must take place at least every 5 years, should focus on what has to change rather than invite the re-opening of settled issues.</p> <p>Therefore, a review of the current LDP 2015 must now take place if the reviewed LDP is to be adopted within the set timescale.</p>
Subject (e.g. Planning, transport etc)	<p>The LDP is concerned with spatial planning and due to its strategic nature will have influence over a wide range of subjects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Housing development; ➤ Economic development; ➤ Infrastructure development; ➤ Natural Heritage; ➤ Historic and cultural heritage; ➤ Transport; ➤ Waste management;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Energy; ➤ Resources; ➤ Leisure and recreation; ➤ Tourism.
Summary of the nature / content of PPS	<p>Taking its strategic direction from the National Park Partnership Plan 2017-2022, the LDP sets out the planning policies for the whole of the Cairngorms National Park.</p> <p>These policies will guide development by identifying sites for specific uses as well as setting out policies covering such issues as affordable housing, economic development and nature conservation.</p>
Period Covered by PPS	2020-2029.
Frequency of Updates	Document reviewed every 5 years.
Area covered by PPS	4,528 km ²
Map included?	A map of the Cairngorms National Park is provided on page 10.
Are there any proposed PPS objectives	Main Issues were identified, with preferred and alternative options created.
Copy of attached objectives	None to attach.

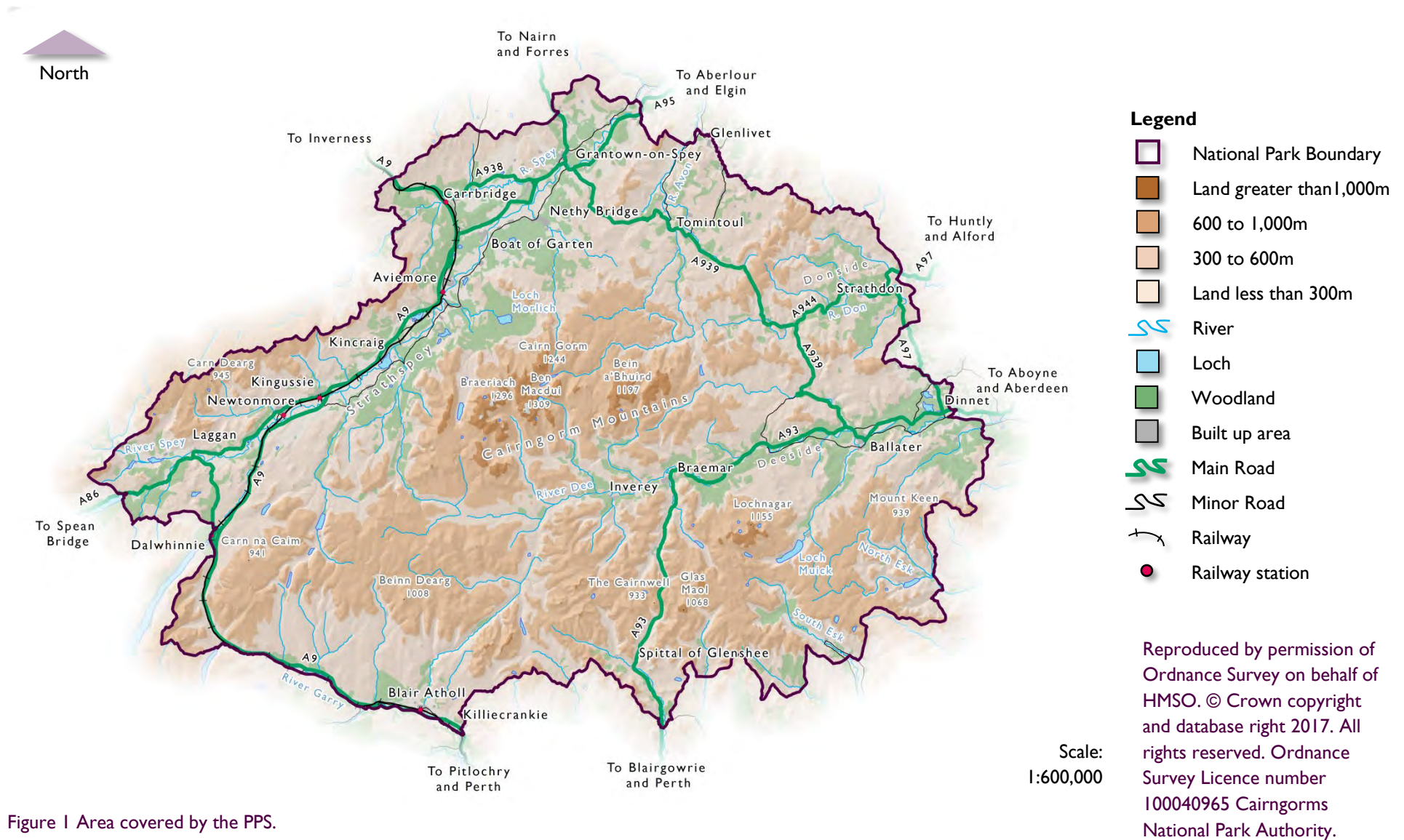


Figure 1 Area covered by the PPS.

Policy Context

“A plan or programme may be influenced in various ways by other plans or programmes, or by external environmental protection objectives such as those laid down in policies or legislation. These relationships enable the Responsible Authority to take advantage of potential synergies and to deal with any inconsistencies and constraints.”

A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive
(ODPM, 2005)

The LDP must have appropriate regard to a wide range of national and international laws, policy and strategy. A review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies (PPS) was conducted to inform the SEA of the proposed LDP, in accordance with the Scottish Government’s SEA Guidance (2013) and the ODPM Guidance on SEA (2005). This is an important part of the SEA process as it ensures the work is consistent with up to date policy, is informed by robust information and also helps in the process of identifying environmental issues,

which are discussed further under the Baseline section of this report (p. 12).

Review Findings

A preliminary review of all the PPSs considered is presented in **Appendix I**. The PPSs are categorised according to their international, national and local scales and are accompanied by information on their purpose, relationship with the LDP and the SEA Issue they relate to.

Baseline

“Baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring environmental effects and helps to identify environmental problems and alternative ways of dealing with them.”

A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive
(ODPM, 2005)

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that information should be provided on the “relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” and “the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected”. This section aims to describe the environmental context within which the LDP operates and the constraints and targets that this context imposes on the LDP.

Baseline information serves two purposes, it helps to identify the issues on which the

SEA should focus, and provides a benchmark against which the performance of the Plan (and the accuracy of any predictions) can be assessed. As well as showing the current² situation the baseline data shows where possible the situation in the past and projections for the future, in order to indicate trends. It is important to recognise that where information on trends is available, the extrapolation of trends into the future can change in response to changes in legislation or other interventions – such as the uncertainty around the longevity of the current global Covid-19 pandemic and the longer term behavioural, environmental and economic effects this may have.

An environmental baseline for the Cairngorms National Park is presented in **Appendix 2** of this report. The baseline is presented using a topic based approach,

which reflects the Issues set out within Schedule 3 of the 2005 Act:

- Topic 1: Climatic Factors (p. 131);
- Topic 2: Air (p. 141);
- Topic 3: Water (p. 145);
- Topic 4: Soil (p. 162);
- Topic 5: Material Assets (p. 173);
- Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora (p. 193);
- Topic 7: Landscape and Cultural Heritage (p. 253); and
- Topic 8: Population and Human Health (p. 282).

While it is recognised that all topics will inter-relate to some degree, it is beyond the scope of this assessment to describe them all in full detail. However, the report does highlight important inter-relationship where they exist and describes their effects under the most relevant topic.

A summary of the baseline may be found in **Table 3**.

² As at December 2018, when the proposed LDP was finalised. Comparison has been made with

updated baseline information created in early 2020 for the SEA of the next National Park Partnership

Plan, however no significant differences were found and so this SEA Environmental Report remains valid.

Summary of the Environmental Baseline and Main Issues

Table 3 Summary of baseline information and main issues; see Appendix 2 for full details.

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
Climatic Factors Pages 99 - 107	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Historic trends show an increase in minimum and maximum temperatures and rainfall and a reduction in the number of days of frost. ➤ Climate change projections offer a central estimate of a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2.4°C increase in mean annual temperature, ➤ 2.7°C increase in mean summer temperature, ➤ 2.1°C increase in mean winter temperature, ➤ 0.07% increase in mean annual precipitation, but with a ➤ 13.5% decrease in mean summer precipitation, and a ➤ 2% decrease in mean winter precipitation. ➤ Per capita carbon emissions in the form of CO₂ are estimated to have decreased from 10.3 tonnes in 2006 to 7.7 tonnes to 2014.
Air Pages 108 - 111	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air quality is relatively high within the National Park. ➤ No Air Quality Management Areas within National Park. ➤ Most air pollution associated with transport, with emissions of PM₁₀ and NO₂ highest along the National Park's main roads, with the A9 being the greatest contributor.
Water Pages 112 - 128	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water quality is relatively high within the National Park. ➤ In 2014 the overall status of waterbodies within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 7.8% High, ➤ 49.7% Good, ➤ 25.5% Moderate, ➤ 14.4% Poor, and

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2.6% Bad. ➤ 2014 saw: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 10.4% of waterbodies improve in overall status, ➤ 80.9% remain the same, and ➤ 8.7% degraded in overall status. ➤ Data from the Spey and Dee indicates a general trend for higher annual maximum instantaneous peak flows. ➤ There is insufficient capacity in the water and sewage treatment works that serve the National Park to meet the projected level of housing growth for the Plan period. ➤ Flood risk: there are nine Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) within the National Park. The estimated total average annual cost of damage in these areas is £1,071,000.
Soil Pages 129 - 239	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Cairngorms National Park does not contain any mapped areas of Prime Agricultural Land. ➤ Around 1,700km² of peat soils within the National Park. ➤ Soil erosion represents a risk to soils with high organic content (such as peat) over large areas of the National Park.
Material Assets Pages 140 - 158	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 39 GCR sites within or overlapping the National Park boundary. Combined they cover an area of around 592 km². ➤ CNPA has permitted around 4.2MW of renewable energy since 2010 although data gaps remain in the exact level of energy generated in the National Park. ➤ Household waste produced is reducing, while the recycling rate is increasing. ➤ In 2015, the Cairngorms National Park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produced 10,080 tonnes of household waste, ➤ Recycled 4,608 tonnes of household waste (45.8%). ➤ Transport infrastructure, while good along the National Park's main corridors, is poor elsewhere in the National Park, resulting in long drive times and high levels of deprivation in SIMD domains relating to access. ➤ Rail use is on the increase, although the reliance on private transport remains high.

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The National Park's internet infrastructure is currently being upgraded, although plans are yet to be confirmed for a third of the exchanges servicing the area.
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora Pages 159 - 230	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cairngorms National Park is home to 25% of the UK's rare animal, insect, lichen, fungi and insect species. ➤ There are around 1,200 species considered to be important for nature conservation within the National Park. ➤ National Park contains 11 National Nature Reserves (NNRs), covering an area of around 513 km². ➤ National Park contains 59 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), covering an area of around 1,128 km². ➤ National Park contains nearly 40 European sites. Of these: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 23 are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), covering around 1,083 km². ➤ 16 are Special Protection Areas (SPAs), covering an area of around 2,536 km². ➤ National Park contains 3 Ramsar Sites, covering an area of around 15 km². ➤ National Park contains one Biogenetic Reserve at Muir of Dinnet. ➤ National Park contains 2 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Reserves at Loch Garten and Insh Marshes. ➤ National Park contains the most extensive tracts of Caledonian forest in Britain. ➤ Native tree species comprise around 79% of the National Park's woodlands, representing a quarter of the entire Scottish native woodland resource. ➤ Aspen dominated woodland is unique to the Cairngorms National Park, the stands are small and total less than 350ha concentrated in Strathspey and Deeside. ➤ Around 340 km² of the National Park's woodlands are identified as being ancient according to NatureScot's Ancient Woodland Inventory. ➤ Around 160 km² of this has also been identified as being semi-natural. ➤ Some of the UK's best ancient floodplain woodlands are located in the Cairngorms National Park. ➤ Caledonian Pinewood is at threat from habitat loss lack of regeneration, limited deadwood and poor structural diversity. ➤ Approximately 1,120ha of new native woodland was created between 2013 and 2017.

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conifer plantations make up 50% of the woodland resource and are of limited value for biodiversity. ➤ Lack of regeneration, poor structural diversity and grazing pressure has reduced the biodiversity value of upland oak. ➤ Capercaillie populations in Scotland have declined significantly from an estimated 20,000 birds in 1970 to around 1,285 at the most recent national winter survey in 2009/10. ➤ The National Park holds a significant proportion of the national Capercaillie population – at least 75% of the national number of lekking males, with the majority in Strathspey. ➤ The Strathspey capercaillie population is crucial to the long-term survival of the species in the UK. ➤ The National Park is one of the last strongholds for red squirrel and Scottish Wildcat in the UK. ➤ The National Park is one of the most important sites for breeding waders due to the combination of wetlands, wet grassland and low-intensity mixed farming. ➤ Wetlands have historically been drained for agriculture, suffered water shortages as a result of over abstraction and impoundment and been subject to pollution pressure from diffuse and point sources. The remaining wetlands are now often small and fragmented. ➤ Wet grasslands are under threat from over-grazing and poaching by livestock, cutting for hay at critical wader breeding times and drainage to create productive agricultural land. ➤ Rivers, lochs and the species they support have been affected by large scale impoundments which have a hydrological impact and also affect sediment dynamics, create barriers to fish passage, diffuse and point source pollution and invasive species ➤ The freshwater pearl mussel is declining dramatically throughout its range. Mussel populations have been affected by multiple issues, including wildlife crime, habitat degradation and declining water quality. ➤ The Cairngorms Mountains support a rich arctic montane flora. ➤ Montane and moorland habitat under threat from climate change, trampling, erosion and disturbance. ➤ Upland heathland under threat from drainage issues. ➤ Blanket bog under threat from erosion, which is likely to be a significant cause of carbon emissions. ➤ Montane scrub is under threat from overgrazing and burning.

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Small fragmented areas of lowland and upland hay meadows, which are locally important for biodiversity and include many species of orchid and waxcap fungi, still exist in places.
<p>Landscape and Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Pages 231 - 259</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At 4,528 square kilometres, and comprising 6% of Scotland's land area, the Cairngorms National Park is the UK's largest protected landscape. ➤ National Park contains 3 National Scenic Areas (NSA), with two, namely the Cairngorm Mountains NSA and Deeside and Lochnagar NSA, located entirely within the National Park's boundary. ➤ Combined, the two main NSAs cover an area of around 1,072 km², which equates to just under 25% of the National Park's land area. ➤ Around 2,100 km² (46%) of the Cairngorms National Park has been identified as Wild Land Areas. ➤ There are 106 Scheduled Monuments recorded within the National Park. ➤ 'The Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland' lists 10 gardens and designed landscapes within the National Park. ➤ There are 2 Inventory Battlefields within the National Park. ➤ There are 5 historic planned towns within the National Park. ➤ There are 6 Conservation Areas within the National Park. ➤ There are around 753 Listed buildings or structures within the National Park, with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 56 in Category A, ➤ 341 in Category B, and ➤ 356 in Category C. ➤ There are 17 buildings on the Buildings at Risk Register within the National Park. ➤ There are around 370 Gaelic and 5,400 Scots speakers living in the National Park.
<p>Population and Human Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 2014, the population of the population of the National Park was estimated to be 18,594, with 9,186 males and 9,408 females. ➤ The National Park has a relatively high proportion of people within the 10 to 29 and 55 to 74 age cohorts.

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
Pages 260 - 298	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National Park has a working age population of approximately 10,909 people (51.9% of total population), with 5,666 males and 5,243 females. ➤ Those of pensionable age numbered 4,539 (24.6% of total population) with 1,911 males and 2,628 females. ➤ Since 2001, the National Park has experienced a significant net increase in its resident population, rising by approximately 2,087 persons (a growth of 12.8%). ➤ Greatest rate of population growth occurred in Aviemore, which increased by around 1,009 people since 2001. ➤ Population projections for the National Park estimate that between 2014 and 2039, the population is projected to drop from 19010 to 18337 (an increase of around 4%). ➤ Over the projection period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of children aged under 16 are projected to decrease by 21% from 3,030 to 2,383. ➤ The working age population is projected to decrease by 10% from 11,250 to 10,178. ➤ People of pensionable age are projected to rise by 23% from 4,730 to 5,776. ➤ Household projections suggest that households are set to increase from 8,653 in 2012 to 9,195 in 2039, an increase of 6%. ➤ The average household size is projected to fall from 2.12 people in 2014 to 1.91 people in 2039. ➤ Around 76.8% of the 16+ Census population had NVQ1 level and above (Scotland 73.2%), and around 30.8% had NVQ4 and above (Scotland 26.1%). ➤ Around 95% of people classed as being economically active were in employment in 2011, which is slightly higher than the Scottish level of 91.9%. ➤ Of the economically inactive in 2011, who numbered 5,377 (around 33.9% of the 16+ population), 75.1% were inactive due to retirement. ➤ The level of full time (72.8%) and part time (27.2%) employee jobs (excludes self-employed, government, trainees and HM Forces) is generally consistent with Scotland as a whole. ➤ Unemployment levels are low, with only 225 people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Q 4 of 2012. ➤ Gross median wage is relatively low in the National Park, but gross household income is above the Scottish median.

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Estimated life expectancy of the National Park is 79 for males and 82.3 for females.➤ Low levels of people with long term health problems or disabilities and high levels of people with good health within the National Park.➤ Low levels of overall deprivation within the National Park, with 3 data zones being in the 20% least deprived in Scotland.➤ Extensive public footpath network, including 1,073km of Core Path.

Environmental Assessment

SEA Objectives

“The review of relevant environmental objectives can be used to construct a framework of objectives against which a plan can be assessed. This can identify whether a plan supports wider environmental objectives or whether there are any environmental gaps.”

SEA Guidance
(Scottish Government, 2013)

This section of the Scoping Report sets out CNPA’s approach to assessment of the LDP.

SEA Objectives have been developed as a result of the review of PPS (**Policy Context**, p. 11) and baseline information (**Baseline**, p. 12) as well as the responses to the consultation on the Scoping Report (**Appendix 4**, p.328). Identifying objectives is an important part of the SEA process as these will be used as the primary tool for testing the LDP to ensure it will not result in any significant environmental effects.

The SEA Objectives are thematically based and are designed to cover the environmental assets that the LDP could potentially affect. It is important to recognise that environmental effects are rarely confined to a single issue, therefore it has been highlighted where significant inter-relationships occur. The SEA Objectives therefore represent the scope of the assessment that has been undertaken to identify potential environmental effects of the Cairngorms National Park LDP.

It is important that the assessment process is proportional, practical and manageable. Consequently, the assessment process uses the ‘main’ SEA Objectives, but takes account of the SEA Sub-Objectives. This distinction is important to ensure the assessment work is practical and achievable. It should also be noted that not all SEA Sub-Objectives are relevant to every aspect of the Plan. Therefore, in the interest of proportionality, where they are not

relevant, they are not considered as part of the assessment process.

The Objectives and their relationship with the SEA Issues identified for the National Park are outlined in **Table 4**, along with any associated sub objectives. The main objectives have been tested for their compatibility with one another, the findings of which can be found in the section on the **Compatibility of Objectives** (p. 28). The framework in which they were utilised is set out on page 30.

Table 4 Proposed SEA Objectives.

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Climatic Factors	Ia	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases with particular focus on emissions from buildings, transport, energy generation and industry (especially CO₂). ➤ Encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency. ➤ Encourage investment in cleaner technologies. ➤ Support investment in suitable renewable energy sources. ➤ Decouple increase in GDP and greenhouse gas emissions. ➤ Encourage the appropriate local sourcing of materials, resources and food produce. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Population and Human health
	Ib	Increase resilience to the effects of climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that new development is appropriately located, having considered the potential effects of future climate conditions. ➤ Ensure infrastructure and buildings are designed to cope with future climate conditions. ➤ Encourage climate change adaptation through green infrastructure. ➤ Encourage existing infrastructure and buildings to adapt to cope with future climate conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Air	2	Protect and enhance air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce levels of the UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO₂, PM₁₀, SO₂). ➤ Reduce levels of ground-level ozone (O₃). ➤ Reduce the need for travel, through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public infrastructure. ➤ Reduce negative effects of power generation, industry and transport on local air quality. ➤ Contribute towards reducing levels of stratospheric ozone depletions. ➤ Encourage appropriate cleaner technology for power generation, industry and transport. ➤ Reduce levels of acid deposition. ➤ Reduce levels of ammonia deposition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health
Water	3a	Reduce flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safeguard the functional floodplain. ➤ Encourage the restoration of a natural flood regime. ➤ Promote land uses and habitat changes that will help to decrease run-off, stabilise slopes, and attenuate flows. ➤ Ensure new development is not located in areas of high or medium flood risk. ➤ Ensure new development does not increase flood risk on site or elsewhere. ➤ Increase the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in both new and refurbished developments. ➤ Avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces. ➤ Reduce reliance on flood mitigation and hard engineered solutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
			➤ Increase provision to manage stormwater.	
	3b	Maintain and improve the quality of water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water is maintained or improved. ➤ Maintain and improve the ability of river catchments to store water. ➤ Conserve public water supply. ➤ Reduce demand for water and minimise unnecessary water use. ➤ Reduce diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas. ➤ Limit land use related pollution (particularly nitrates) on water resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Soil	4	Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain or improve the productive capacity of soils. ➤ Maintain or improve the ability of farmland in the Park to sustainably produce high quality local and seasonal food. ➤ Avoid increased diffuse pollution, particularly SO₂ and NO₂ emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture and other economic activities. ➤ Protect and enhance soil quantity (including non-chemical soil functions and processes such as permeability) and quantity, especially of carbon rich soils. ➤ Maintain, restore or improve the carbon storage capacity of peat and soils. ➤ Minimise carbon emissions from land use (e.g. muirburn). ➤ Avoid and reduce contamination of soils. ➤ Promote the regeneration and redevelopment of brownfield and contaminated land. ➤ Take account of soil function. ➤ Minimise soil erosion. ➤ Minimise soil sealing. ➤ Minimise soil compaction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Water ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Material Assets	5	Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote decoupling of resource use from economic prosperity. ➤ Encourage sustainable use of natural resources e.g. water, timber, aggregates. ➤ Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials. ➤ Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle. ➤ Value, conserve and enhance geodiversity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human Health
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	6a	Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive native species and habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect the integrity of European sites, proposed European sites and listed Ramsar sites, and to conserve or, where not at a favourable conservation status, enhance their qualifying features. ➤ Avoid damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and encourage their enhancement and connection. ➤ Conserve and enhance the viability and diversity of distinctive species and habitats and their connectivity. ➤ Avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases. ➤ Conserve, enhance and create appropriate natural habitats and wider biodiversity within and outwith settlements. ➤ Encourage innovative methods of producing biodiversity gain for both new and existing developments. ➤ Reduce the ecological footprint of the Cairngorms National Park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human Health

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enable people to access and appreciate the Cairngorms National Park's natural heritage more. 	
	6b	Maintain and improve the sustainable management of woodland for multiple benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain or improve the capacity of woodland to sequester and store carbon. ➤ Enhance the ecological functioning of woodland at a landscape scale. ➤ Avoid the loss of ancient woodland and veteran trees. ➤ Protect and enhance the ecosystem services woodland provide (e.g. flood alleviation and pollution mitigation). ➤ Protect and promote the recreational, cultural, landscape and economic value of woodland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human Health
Landscape and Cultural Heritage	7	Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the National Park's landscape and cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect and enhance the National Park's special landscape qualities. ➤ Work towards creating landscapes that are ecologically functional. ➤ Minimise the loss of wild land. ➤ Reduce light pollution. ➤ Value, protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment and its assets. ➤ To promote high quality design based on a comprehensive understanding of landscape character and distinctiveness. ➤ Protect and enhance townscape and respect the existing pattern, form and setting of settlements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Population and Human Health	8a	Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain the recreational value of the Cairngorms National Park. ➤ Promote and maintain opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles. ➤ Encourage walking or cycling as an alternative means of transportation. ➤ Empower people to experience, learn about and share the Cairngorms National Park's historic, cultural and natural heritage. ➤ Promote the improvement and maintenance of social and physical environments / facilities that provide opportunities to enhance health and wellbeing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human Health
	8b	Support vibrant, safe and healthy communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure the population and household growth is accommodated in appropriate locations. ➤ Ensure a suitable affordable housing stock is available to meet needs. ➤ Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions. ➤ Promote the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups. ➤ Redress imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion. ➤ Provide easy access to high quality facilities and services. ➤ Ensure that adequate healthcare premises are provided throughout the National Park. ➤ Reduce burden of ill-health in the population. ➤ Reduce the causes of accidents. ➤ Ensure the quality of the built environment complements the high quality natural environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human Health

As can be seen from **Figure 2**, a large number of the SEA objectives are either compatible with each other, or there is no relationship between them. Where there is no relationship between objectives this means they can be achieved simultaneously without conflict. However, there is uncertainty between the compatibility of some objectives, for example the objectives 3a and 7. This uncertainty will be considered in greater detail within the assessments.

Likely changes to the environment in the absence of a Plan

“It is important to be aware that baselines will change over time under ‘no plan or programme’ and ‘business as usual’ alternatives, as well as under new plans or programmes.”

A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive
(ODPM, 2005)

In forecasting the ‘business as usual’, or ‘without the plan’ scenario it is first necessary to determine what that means. In the case of the LDP, the absence of a Plan is

taken to mean the continued implementation of the CNPA’s overarching Plans such as the NPPP 2017 and Local Development Plan (LDP) 2015 as well as the international and national PPS listed in **Appendix I** (p. 105). However as the 2015 Local Development Plan would not accord with the legal requirement to be updated every 5 years, its content would have a weaker legal basis and be open to challenge.

The Environmental effects of this interpretation are forecast in the context of the SEA Objectives (**Table 4**). The SEA Objectives have been chosen as a context for this exercise because:

- They provide the context against which the likely effects of the Plan have been assessed; and
- They provide the proposed framework for SEA monitoring.

Table 5 Likely environmental changes in the absence of a Plan.

SEA Objective	Business as Usual Scenario
Ia Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	<p>In the absence of the LDP, statutory plans such as the National Park Plan (NPPP) will provide strategic context for decisions on development and help direct it to the most appropriate locations and promote sustainable development. The NPPP also provides the policy basis which all lower tier PPS should follow, therefore its existence ensures that issues such as climate change are not missed at a lower level. However, the NPPP does not identify specific settlements and therefore the absence of an up-to-date LDP could lead to an increase in speculative development resulting in greater levels of car use.</p> <p>National guidance such as Scottish Planning Policy (SPP), which has the aim of turning Scotland into “A low carbon place – reducing our carbon emissions and adapting to climate” will also be material. SPP requires that decision makers support climate change mitigation and adaptation including taking account of flood risk. National Planning Framework (NPF) 3 would also play a role as it aims to facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy, particularly by supporting diversification of the energy sector.</p> <p>However, it is important to note that both SPP and SPF require LDPs to deliver their objectives and therefore, in its absence, the ability of the CNPA to reduce climate change emissions is more limited.</p>
Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change	<p>The NPPP has a number of measures that help mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. These include targets to expand woodland and restore peatland.</p> <p>National guidance such as Scottish Planning Policy (SPP), which has the aim of turning Scotland into “A low carbon place – reducing our carbon emissions and adapting to climate” will also be material. SPP requires that decision makers support climate change mitigation and adaptation including taking account of flood risk. National Planning Framework (NPF) 3 would also play a role as it aims to facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy, particularly by supporting diversification of the energy sector.</p> <p>However, it is important to note that both SPP and SPF require LDPs to deliver their objectives and therefore, in its absence, the ability of the CNPA to encourage develop climate change adaptation is more limited.</p>
2a Protect and enhance air quality	<p>With a growing population, increasing visitor numbers and high levels of private motor vehicle use, there is likely to be a minor negative impact on air quality over the Plan period. The NPPP provides strategic</p>

SEA Objective	Business as Usual Scenario
	<p>direction for the location of development and also aims is to integrate sustainable patterns of development and travel. However, it requires the LDP to provide the policy basis for decisions on development to be made and therefore in its absence it is likely that development would be harder to direct to locations that limit air pollution.</p>
3a Reduce flood risk	<p>NPPP may act as a means of coordinating the delivery of natural flood management measures, particularly when they are implemented as part of broader landscape scale habitat management priorities, such woodland expansion or peatland restoration.</p> <p>National policy in the form of SPP and NPF would also play a role, with the NPF in particular supporting a catchment-scale approach to sustainable flood risk management. Furthermore, SPP states that the planning system should prevent development which would have a significant probability of being affected by flooding or would increase the probability of flooding elsewhere.</p> <p>Therefore, while it is likely that flood risk would still be a key consideration in the development process, it would be harder to deliver more strategic benefits, that coordinating actions between different land ownership interests. It is likely therefore, that in the absence of a LDP, that opportunities for reducing flood risk could be missed.</p>
3b Maintain and improve the quality of water resources	<p>According to SPPP, where relevant policies in a development plan are out-of-date then the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development will be a significant material consideration. However, the LDP plays an important role on minimising the effect on water quality, particularly through the designation of sites that are likely to have the least impact. In its absence of a plan ad-hoc development could lead water resources may be damaged by inappropriate placement. To a certain extent, national policy will be able to limit some of the effects by restricting development on established floodplains</p>
4 Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.	<p>According to SPPP, where relevant policies in a development plan are out-of-date then the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development will be a significant material consideration. However, the absence of a settlement strategy the location of development is harder to manage and therefore greater adverse impact on soil could occur through an increase in development of</p>

SEA Objective	Business as Usual Scenario
	greenfield sites. This could be particularly significant if large scale development were to be allowed on the best and most versatile agricultural land.
5 Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets	According to SPPP, where relevant policies in a development plan are out-of-date then the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development will be a significant material consideration. While decisions can be made it may reduce the ability for the CNPA to deliver desirable outcomes for specific types of applications e.g. mineral operations and hill tracks.
6a Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive wild species and habitats	<p>The National Park is protected by many tiers of areas designated for nature conservation and even in the absence of the LDP, development and land management practices would still have to meet the requirements of legislation protecting these sites. However, biodiversity is more than just protected sites and the National Park is home to many important yet undesignated habitats, many of which are important to the protected sites themselves.</p> <p>In the absence of a LDP, national policy will continue to restrict development in the open countryside, and national legislation for nature conservation sites will continue to protect them from direct development. However, the overall biodiversity value of individual sites, and of the National Park as a whole, could be damaged in the absence of policies concerning the selection of development sites and means of mitigating negative effects. Biodiversity is therefore likely to decline more than if a LDP was not in place. This is probable because the landscape and biodiversity policies of the plan provide additional policy guidance, which is amplified through the preparation of non-statutory supplementary planning guidance.</p> <p>Furthermore, in this scenario it is likely that CNPA would have difficulty meeting its aim “to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area”.</p>
6b Maintain and improve the sustainable management of woodland for multiple benefits	The National Park contains the most extensive tract of Caledonian forest in Britain. It has around 340 km ² of ancient woodland, of which around 160 km ² is semi-natural. Woodland is therefore an important habitat and resource of interest to many of the National Park’s partners. In the LDP’s absence, national policy such as SPP would continue to protect ancient and semi-natural woodland, however it would become more difficult to protect undesignated, yet still important woodlands, from development.

SEA Objective	Business as Usual Scenario
7 Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the National Park's landscape and cultural and historic heritage	The Cairngorms National Park represents the UK's largest protected landscape. The NPPP offers CNPA the ability to protect the special qualities of the National Park's landscape from harmful development or land management practices that take place both within and outwith its boundary. However, the LDP and its non-statutory supplementary guidance provide direction at a site level and help direct and formulate the implementation of landscaping schemes. Should this ability be lost then it may result in a loss of landscape quality at a local level, which in combination with other sites, could have a wider landscape impact.
8a Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities	One of the aims of National Parks is <i>"to promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public"</i> . The LDP is not the greatest contributor to meeting this objective. For example, it is the NPPP that offers a framework for the coordinated delivery of services and facilities that support healthy living. However, the LDP's remit over the location of development sites can play a role in creating environments in which opportunities for health and wellbeing can be maximised. In the absence of an LDP to coordinate development, such opportunities could be lost.
8b Support vibrant, safe and healthy communities	One of the aims of National Parks is <i>"to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities"</i> . Issues include a growing but aging population, relatively high house prices and relatively low median incomes. SPP states that where relevant policies in a development plan are out-of-date, then the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development will be a significant material consideration. Decisions may therefore be made on a development management basis, however it will reduce the ability to gain housing that meets specific affordable and other special needs, or at least the ability to shape development for specific needs.

Development of the Cairngorms LDP

“[Reasonable alternatives] can be used to achieve environmental benefits and, where well executed, can be an opportunity for the SEA to add value to the planning process by encouraging lateral or creative thinking. Alternatives must be realistic and are likely to emerge from the plan-making process. However, the SEA can encourage further thinking around alternatives, and highlight where environmentally preferable options exist.”

SEA Guidance
(Scottish Government, 2013)

Background and Strategic Context

All planning authorities in Scotland are required by law to publish a Local Development Plan (LDP) for their area. The LDP should set out policies and site allocations to guide the development and use of land within the plan area. Current legislation requires the LDP to be kept up-to-date and reviewed at least every five years. The previous LDP for the

Cairngorms National Park was adopted in March 2015 and the new LDP must therefore be adopted in 2020.

The process for producing an LDP is set out in planning legislation and includes a number of key stages:

- identifying and consulting on the key issues for the LDP through a Main Issues Report;
- producing a proposed LDP to outline the planning authority's settled view on policies and proposals for the development and use of land; and
- subjecting the proposed LDP to public scrutiny and then an independent examination by a Reporter at DPEA appointed by Scottish Ministers.

A Main Issues Report (MIR) was published for consultation from 17 November 2017 to 2 March 2018. The MIR identified 10 key topics that were considered to be the most important issues that the LDP 2020 would need to address. It also identified issues and objectives, as well as potential development

options, for each of the main settlements in the National Park. The MIR sought views on the potential options for tackling the issues identified, including both the CNPA's preferred options and other reasonable alternatives. The MIR was subject to an environmental assessment which was published in an Environmental Report and consulted on at the same time as the MIR itself:

www.cairngorms.co.uk/authority/publication/435

A total of 329 formal responses were received to the MIR consultation. These came from a broad range of organisations and private individuals. A report summarising the consultation responses and seeking direction on how to take them into account in developing the Proposed LDP was considered by the Planning Committee in June 2018.

The MIR consultation responses included a number of new site proposals that were not included as options in the MIR. The

Planning Committee identified a small number of these proposals as being potentially appropriate for inclusion in the Proposed LDP. An additional focused consultation was carried out to seek wider public views on these new site proposals from 13 August to 21 September 2018. These sites were also subject to Environmental Assessment, which was presented as an addendum to the MIR's Environmental Report:

www.cairngorms.co.uk/consultation/post-mir

A total of 72 responses were received to the new sites consultation. A report summarising the responses and seeking direction on whether or not to include the new sites in the proposed LDP in light of the consultation comments was considered by the Planning Committee in November 2018.

Proposed LDP

The Proposed LDP was the result of this process. Its content took account of the consultation responses to the MIR and the

new sites consultation, as well as comments from Members during subsequent informal discussion sessions. In addition, it took account of comments from other key stakeholders, including the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, NatureScot, Scottish Water, Transport Scotland and partner local authorities, who were also informally consulted on its emerging content.

The proposed LDP linked closely with the National Park Partnership Plan 2017-2022 (NPPP), which provides a strategic context for the LDP. It also takes account of guidance in the National Planning Framework and Scottish Planning Policy.

The proposed LDP included 5 sections: Introduction; Vision; Spatial Strategy; Policies; and Community Information. The vision is based on the vision and long-term outcomes in the NPPP. The spatial strategy (the overall development strategy on which the proposed LDP is based) is largely unaltered from the 2015 LDP. Nevertheless, the proposed LDP did

introduce a number of changes from the 2015 LDP.

The proposed LDP identified eleven overarching policies, most of which also have sub-policies dealing with specific aspects of that policy area:

- Policy 1: New Housing Development;
- Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth;
- Policy 3: Design and Placemaking;
- Policy 4: Natural Heritage;
- Policy 5: Landscape;
- Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment;
- Policy 7: Renewable Energy;
- Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation;
- Policy 9: Cultural Heritage;
- Policy 10: Resources;
- Policy 11: Developer Obligations.

The proposed Plan was based on an overall development strategy that focussed most development to the main settlements of the National Park – Aviemore, Ballater, Grantown-on Spey, Kingussie and

Newtonmore. These settlements are referred to as 'strategic settlements'.

In addition to the strategic settlements, the development strategy also identifies 'intermediate settlements' and 'rural settlements'. Intermediate settlements will accommodate development to meet wider needs, albeit at a more modest scale than within the strategic settlements, whilst development in rural settlements will primarily be aimed at meeting local need.

This Settlement hierarchy is set out as follows:

Strategic Settlements

- Aviemore
- Ballater
- Grantown-on-Spey
- Kingussie
- Newtonmore

Intermediate Settlements

- Blair Atholl
- Boat of Garten
- Braemar
- Carr-Bridge

- Cromdale
- Dulnain Bridge
- Kincaig
- Nethy Bridge
- Tomintoul

Rural Settlements

- Angus Glens
- Bruar and Pitagowan
- Calvine
- Dalwhinnie
- Dinnet
- Glenlivet
- Glenmore
- Glenshee
- Insh
- Inverdrue and Coylumbridge
- Killiecrankie
- Laggan
- Strathdon

options and taken forward into the adopted Local Development Plan 2020.

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) 2005 requires that reasonable alternatives to the Plan be considered as part of the SEA. These options were presented and assessed in the Environmental Report of the MIR. The content on this Report therefore only contains assessments of the policies and sites developed from these

Assessing the effects of the proposed LDP's Vision, Strategy and Policies

"Evaluation involves forming a judgement on whether or not a predicted effect will be environmentally significant."

A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive
(ODPM, 2005)

The vision, settlement strategy and policies of the LDP were assessed for their likely effects in relation to the SEA Objectives. That is to say, are the steps necessary to pursue the LDP likely to have an effect on the aims of the SEA Objective?

This stage of the SEA involves:

- Predicting the effects of the plan or programme, including alternatives;
- Evaluating the effects of the draft plan or programme, including alternatives;
- Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects; and
- Proposing measures to monitor the environmental and sustainability

effects of plan or programme implementation.

The full appraisal matrices are included in **Appendix 6**.

The assessment was carried out using the following criteria:

++	Option would have a major positive effect.
+	Option would have a minor positive effect.
?	Effect of Option is uncertain.
□	Option would have no predicted effects or no site specific effects.
-	Option would have a minor adverse effect.
--	The Option would have a major adverse effect.

A full outline of the assessment criteria can be found in **Appendix 5**.

Table 6 Summary of SEA Assessment of the LDP's Vision, Settlement Strategy and Policies.

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
Vision												
Vision	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	++	++	++	++	++
Spatial Strategy												
Spatial Strategy	+	+	+	□	-	-	□	?	□	+	+	++
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	-	+	-	□	-	-	□	?	?	+	+	++

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	□	□	□	□	?	□	□	?	?	?	+	□
1.3 Other housing in the countryside	□	□	□	□	?	□	□	?	?	?	+	□
1.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	+	+	□	□	□	+	+	+	□	□	++	++
1.5 Affordable housing	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	++	++

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	?	□	?	□	?	?	□	?	?	?	+	+
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	□	+	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
I.8 Conversions	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
I.9 Replacement houses	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
1.10 Housing for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	+
2.1 Town centres first	+	☐	+	☐	☐	?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	+
2.2 Tourist accommodation	?	☐	?	☐	☐	?	☐	?	?	?	☐	+

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	?	□	?	□	□	?	□	?	?	?	□	+
2.4 Other economic development	?	□	?	□	□	?	□	?	?	?	□	+
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	?	?	□	□	+
3.1 Placemaking	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	□	□	++	++	+

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
3.2 Major Developments	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++
3.3 Sustainable Design	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	□	□	++	++	+
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
3.5 Converting existing building stock	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.1 International designations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	++	+	☐	☐	☐
4.2 National designations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	++	+	☐	☐	☐
4.3 Woodlands	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
4.4 Protected species	□	+	□	□	□	□	□	++	+	□	□	□
4.5 Other biodiversity	+	+	+	+	+	+	□	++	+	+	+	+
4.6 All development	+	+	+	+	+	+	□	++	+	+	+	+
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	+	+	++	+	+

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	□	□	□	□	□	+	+	+	□	+	□	□
6 The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	?	□	+
7.1 All renewable energy developments	++	□	□	+	□	?	+	□	□	?	□	□
7.2 Hydropower	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
7.3 Wind energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.4 Biomass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.5 Energy from waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.6 Heat networks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
8.1 New development	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	++	++
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	++	++
8.3 Re-development of other open space	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	++	++
9.1 Listed buildings	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	++	++	□

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	++	++	☐
9.3 Conservation areas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	++	++	☐
9.4 Other cultural heritage	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	++	++	☐
10.1 Water resources	☐	+	☐	☐	++	☐	+	+	☐	☐	☐	☐

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
10.2 Flooding	☐	+	☐	++	+	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.3 Connection to sewerage	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	++	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.5 Landfill	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	+	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Plan Element	SEA Objectives											
	1a Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
10.6 Minerals	-	□	-	□	?	-	+	?	?	?	□	□
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	+	□	□	+	+	++	□	+	□	+	□	□
10.8 Contaminated land	□	□	□	□	□	++	□	□	□	□	□	□
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	□	□	□	□	+	□	□	+	+	+	++	++

Assessment of Sites

As part of the Local Development Plan (LDP) preparation CNPA invited developers, landowners, public service providers, health providers and community councils to submit land that they would like to be considered for inclusion in the LDP for development. It should be noted that a request for such consideration did not automatically result in the land being included in the LDP. Whether or not sites get included in the LDP was the subject of a detailed SEA assessment.

The SEA formed part of the process for evaluating these sites and helped identify preferred options. The sites were assessed for their likely effects in relation to the SEA Objectives. That is to say, would development of a site be likely to have an effect on the aims of the SEA Objective.

The outcome of this process, including assessments of both preferred and alternative options, was published in the Environmental Report for the the MIR and can be viewed here:

www.cairngorms.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/171113LDPMIRSiteAssessmentLocked.pdf

The next stage in the process was to assess the proposed allocations that evolved from these options, which were then taken forward into the LDP 2020 - . A summary of the assessment of the sites is shown in **Table 7**. The full appraisal matrices, including details regarding the predicted effects of the sites, are included in **Appendix 7**.

Generally the effects that are predicted to result from implementation of the proposed allocations are found to be compatible with the SEA Objectives. Some adverse effects have been predicted, these largely being linked to the effects on the environmental SEA Objectives. These also relate to pre-mitigation effects and as a result do not reflect the final outcome that is expected from implementation of the Plan. A conclusion of no site specific effects has also been the result of a large number of assessments. This is for a number of main reasons:

- the site can have no likely effect on the objective because of its scale, location or nature of the development; or
- while development might have an effect on the Objective, the choice of one site over another in any particular settlement, would not. For example developing new houses in a settlement may put pressure on existing infrastructure (e.g. waste water treatment), but the exact location of the houses has no effect on this issue.

Table 7 Summary of SEA Assessment of Proposed Sites

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
Strategic Centres													
Aviemore													
H1	Dalfaber 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	□	-	□	□	-	-
H2	Dalfaber 2	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	-	-
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	+	-	+	-	-	-	□	-	-	+	+	+
M2	Laurel Bank	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	□	□	+	+
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	-	□	□	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
C2	Former School Playing Fields	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	+	-	+	-	-	-	□	-	□	□	+	+
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	+	+	+
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
ED3	Granish	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
ACM	An Camas Mòr	?	-	?	-	-	-	□	-	-	-	?	?
Ballater													

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
HI	Monaltrie Park	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	□	□	+	+
CI	Former School Site	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	+	+	+
EDI	Ballater Business Park	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	+	□	+	+	+
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
Grantown-on-Spey													
HI	Beachen Court	+	-	-	-	-	-	□	+	□	+	-	-
H2	Castle Road	+	-	+	-	-	-	□	-	-	-	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
C1	Mossie Road	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	+	□	□	+	+
Land adjacent to C1	Allotments	+	+	+	□	□	□	+	□	□	□	+	+
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	-	-	-	-	□	-	□	+	□	□	-	-
ED1	Woodlands Industrial Estate	-	□	-	□	□	+	+	+	□	+	-	-
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	-	□	-	□	□	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
Kingussie													
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	+	□	□	-	-

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
C1	Ardoynie Car Park	+	□	+	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	+	+
C2	Car Park	+	□	+	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	+	+
C3	Am Fasgadh	+	-	-	-	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
C4	Car Park	+	-	+	-	-	+		□	□	□	+	+
ED1	Council Depot	+	-	+	-	□	+	+	□	□	+	+	+
ED2	McCormack's Garage	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	+	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	-	□	-	□	□	+	+	-	□	-	-	-
Newtonmore													
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	□	□	-	-	-
ED1	Rear of Café	-	□	-	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	-	-
ED2	Industrial Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	□	+	□	□	-	-
T1	Highland Folk Museum	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	□	□	□	-	-
Intermediate Settlements													
Blair Atholl													

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	□	□	-	-	-
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	+	+
H3	Land North of Old Orchard	□	□	□	□	□	-	□	□	□	□	+	+
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	+	-	+	-	□	+	+	+	□	□	+	+
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	-	+	+
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	+	-	+	-	□	+	+	□	-	-	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
T3	Visitor Gateway	+	-	+	-	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
Boat of Garten													
ED I	The Steam Railway Station	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
Braemar													
H1	Chapel Brae I	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	-	+	+
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	-	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
H3	Kindrochit Court	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	+	+
H4	Chapel Brae 2	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	-	-	-	-	-
ED1	Ambulance Station	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
ED2	The Mews	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	□	□	□	-	-	-
Carr-Bridge													
HI	Carr Road	-	-	-	-	□	-	□	□	□	-	-	-

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
H2	Crannich Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	□	-	□	-	-	-
ED1	Land at Railway Station	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	:-	:-	-	-	-
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	+	+	+
ED3	Former Saw Mill	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	?	□	+	-	-
TI	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	:-	:-	-	+	+
Cromdale													
HI	Kirk Road	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	+	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
H2	Auchroisk Park	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	+	+	+
ED I	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	+	+	+
Dalnain Bridge													
H1	Land west of play area	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	+	+
H2	Land adjacent to A938	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	+	+
ED I	Dalnain Garage	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	□	+	+
Kincraig													

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
HI	Land Opposite School	+	-	+	-	-	-	□	□	□	□	+	+
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	□	+	+
Nethy Bridge													
HI	Land at Lynstock Crescent	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	-	-
H2	Lettoch Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	□	-	-	-	-	-
Tomintoul													
HI	Conglass Lane	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	□	+	+

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
H2	Lecht Drive	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	□	+	+
ED1	Garage North East	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	□	□	+	+	+
ED2	Land by A939	+	□	+	□	□	-	□	-	□	-	+	+
T1	Land to the South West	+	□	+	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	+	+
Rural Settlement													
Calvine													
CI	Old School	+	□	+	□	□	+	+	□	□	+	+	+
Dalwhinnie													

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
HI	Land by garage	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	-	□	□	-	-
EDI	Garage Site	-	□	-	□	□	-	□	+	□	+	-	-
Dinnet													
HI	Land to East	+	-	+	-	□	-	□	-	-	-	+	+
EDI	Former Steading	-	-	-	-	□	+	+	□	□	+	-	-
Glenmore													
TI	Glenmore Camp Site	--	-	--	-	-	□	□	□	□	□	+	□

Site Ref.	Site Name	SEA Objectives											
		1a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	1b. Increase resilience to climate change	2. Protect and enhance air quality	3a. Reduce flood risk	3b. Maintain and improve the quality of water	4. Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	5. Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	6a. Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity	6b. Improve the management of woodland	7. Protect the special qualities of the landscape	8a. Maximise health and wellbeing	8b. Vibrant, safe and healthy communities.
T2	Glenmore Lodge	++	☐	++	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	+	+
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge													
T1	Camping Site	-	-	-	-	-	☐	☐	++	+	☐	-	-
Laggan													
H1	Land adjacent to Achduchil	++	-	++	-	-	++	☐	-	-	++	++	++

Summary of Site Assessments

The following table provides a brief summary of the potential effects identified by the SEA assessment of the proposed allocated sites. The table shows that the majority of assessments were either positive or neutral around (around 66%) in their effects on the SEA Objectives.

Since the strategy and policies of the LDP direct the type of development appropriate for the sites and therefore contribute significantly to the mitigation identified during their assessment, a more comprehensive summary, which also discusses matters of cumulative, incombination and synergistic effects, can be found on the section on **Assessing Cumulative Effects** (page 79). Full details of suggested mitigation can be found alongside the assessments in **Appendix 7**.

Table 8 Summary of SA/SEA Assessment of Proposed Allocated Sites

Long Term Significance	Count	%
++	0	0.0%
+	287	29.3%
□	363	37.0%
?	6	0.6%
-	291	29.7%
--	34	3.5%

Changes Arising from the Assessment

During the assessment of the options of the LDP a number of opportunities for reducing environmental effects were identified.

Table 9 Changes arising from the assessment.

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
Policies			
10.6 Minerals	SEA Objective 5: Sustainable use and reuse of material assets	While the policy performs positively against the SEA Objective, a possible enhancement has been identified. Though restrictive, as worded the policy only dealt with primary mineral resources, however it should be recognised that secondary aggregates and / or recycled materials can be a more sustainable source of mineral resources and should be encouraged. The result could mean that the need to exploit new mineral resources is lessened, thereby increasing the overall effectiveness of the policy.	Policy could be enhanced by encouraging the processing of secondary aggregate/recycled materials: <i>"Proposals will be supported that enable a higher proportion of secondary aggregate/recycled materials to substitute for the consumption of primary aggregates; including facilities for storing, processing and recycling construction, demolition and excavation materials on construction sites and within active mineral sites and former quarries."</i>
Sites			
HI Aviemore	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 10% site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone.	Include following requirements: <i>"Should the existing permission expire or be varied, a revised Flood Risk Assessment and hydromorphological study will be required to identify the functional floodplain and developable area."</i> <i>"A revised Drainage Impact Assessment may be required."</i>

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
M1 Aviemore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The site's north eastern boundary runs along a burn and consequently a small strip along this boundary is affected by the medium probability flood zone. Across the site there are patches of medium and high probability surface water flood risk, though combined this probably equates to less than 15%.	Include following requirements: "A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area." "A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."
M2	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	Include following requirements: "A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area." "A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."
C2 Aviemore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The whole site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone.	Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: "A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area." "A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."
C3 Aviemore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone.	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements:

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
			<i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
EDI Aviemore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Parts of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These areas are however already developed.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
ED3 Aviemore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Patches of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Combined these equate to less than 10%.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
ACM	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Large areas of the site are affected by the medium and low probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas fall outside of the site's preferred area. However, a large proportion of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
HI Ballater	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone. Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned a flood study for Ballater, which reviewed the hydrology of the area in light of Storm Frank. The	Include following requirements: <i>"Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned a flood study for Ballater. Any site layout will need to take account of the functional flood plain, as defined in the Ballater Flood Study, and will require safe access and egress."</i>

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
		draft Storm Frank extents have been used to inform the site assessment.	<i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
EDI Ballater	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The whole site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
T1 Ballater	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
H1 Grantown-on-Spey	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 10% of the site is affected by the low probability river extend flood zone.	Include following requirements: <i>"A revised Flood Risk Assessment will be required."</i> <i>"A revised Drainage Impact Assessment will be required and any new development must take account of and ensure integration with the existing SuDS scheme."</i>
H2 Grantown-on-Spey	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Patches of the site, which combined equate to around 15% of its area, are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. The most significant of these of these are outside of the site's preferred area.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment will be required."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required."</i>
C2 Grantown-on-Spey	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 10% of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flooding.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i>

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
ED1 Grantown-on-Spey	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
C3 Kingussie	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 70% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed in some form.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
ED1 Kingussie	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 50% of the site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zones.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
ED2 Kingussie	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	No site specific effects, although the medium and high probability flood zone surrounds the site.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to accompany any further development proposals."</i>
T1 Kingussie	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas are however already developed or excluded from the developable area.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
H1 Newtonmore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. This area is however confined to the south and is excluded from the site's developable area.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
ED1 Newtonmore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	No site specific effects, although the site is surrounded by the medium and high probability flood zone.	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i>
ED2 Newtonmore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Parts of the site are affected by the low medium and low probability river extent flood zone.	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i>
T1 Newtonmore	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate	A small area along the site's southern boundary is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
	change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Owing to the nature of the site's use it is unlikely that this is going to be developed.	<p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i></p> <p><i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i></p>
H2 Blair Atholl	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	A small part of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding and surface water flood zones.	<p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i></p> <p><i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i></p>
ED1 Blair Atholl	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. The site is however already developed.	<p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i></p> <p><i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i></p>
T1 Blair Atholl	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.	<p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i></p> <p><i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i></p>

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
T2 Blair Atholl	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding zone. The site is however already developed.	<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
T3 Blair Atholl	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
T1 Braemar	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone. This part is not within the area preferred for the extension of the caravan park.	<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p>
H1 Carr-Bridge	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Around half the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding. This wooded area falls outside of the site's preferred area.	<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
H2 Carr-Bridge	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone.	<p>Include following requierments:</p>

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
	change and 3a. Reduce flood risk		<i>"A revised Flood Risk Assessment may be required."</i>
ED1 Carr-Bridge	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: <i>"A revised Flood Risk Assessment may be required."</i>
ED3 Carr-Bridge	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 50% is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zone.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
T1 Carr-Bridge	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i>
H1 Kincaig	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 40% of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone and a watercourse runs along its western edge..	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i>
H2 Nethy Bridge	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate	Around 40% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	Include following requirements:

Policy / Site	SEA Objective	Reasons for Change	Recommendation
	change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	The preferred part of the site is not within this area.	<i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
EDI Dinnet	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	A small area of the site, certainly less than 5%, is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
TI Glenmore	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone, essentially following the path of a water course.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
TI Inverdrue and Coylumbridge	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 40% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone, essentially following the path of a water course.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
HI Laggan	1b Increase resilience to the effects of climate change and 3a. Reduce flood risk	Around 15% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone and surface water run-off zone.	Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
HI Laggan	4 Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.	There is deep peat present along the site's north western boundary. While not likely that deep peat covers a significant proportion of the site, in order to ensure negative effects do not arise, it is recommended that a peat survey be one of the site's requirements.	Add following text to site requirements: <i>"Deep peat in vicinity of site. A Peat survey will be required to ensure that development does not occur where deep peat is present."</i>

Assessing Cumulative Effects

“Many environmental problems result from the accumulation of multiple small and often indirect effects, rather than a few large and obvious ones.”

A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive
(ODPM, 2005)

It is a requirement of the SEA Directive that the effects of Strategy’s objectives and spatial options are assessed in combination with other Strategy elements (as opposed to in isolation) (**Figure 3, Figure 6**~~Error!~~
Reference source not found., Figure 5 and). These combined effects are called cumulative effects; effects that arise due to the addition of the effects of a number of elements to produce a greater effect; and synergistic effects; those that arise from an interaction of the effects of objectives, and can be thought of as effects that are greater than the sum of the parts.

It is important to note that no significant adverse effects were identified by the assessment of the LDP’s vision,

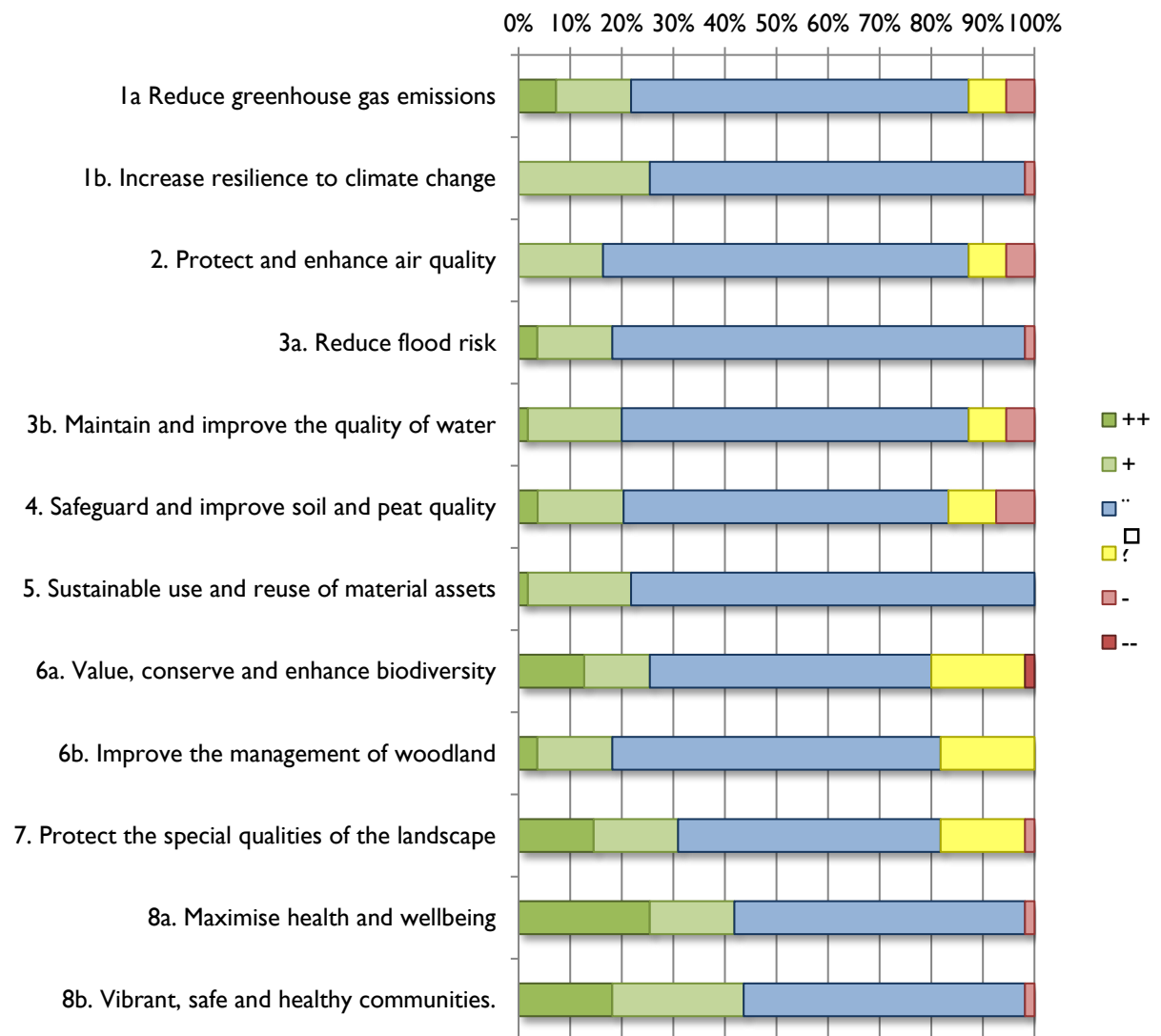


Figure 3 Summary of assessment by SEA Objective.

strategy and policies.

Consideration also needs to be given as to whether or not significant in-combination or cumulative effects might arise from the 18 predicted minor adverse effects identified in the assessment.

The adverse effects cluster around certain options and certain SEA Objectives. SEA Objective 1a to Reduce GHG emissions, Objective 2 to protect and enhance air quality, Objective 3b to maintain and improve the quality of water and Objective 4 to Safeguard and improve soil and peat quality returned the greatest number of minor adverse effects, with 2, 2, 3 and 3 respectively. Most of these are associated with housing growth.

In terms of GHG emissions, it is not considered that the cumulative effects are likely to become significant. This largely because the National Park's population is a small one and is not projected to grow let alone reach levels whereby considerable harm might be caused. Furthermore, improvements to the insulatory standards

and energy efficiency of buildings means that the effects of any new development are likely to be limited.

Where the effects of SEA Objectives 1a and 2 meet is with the emissions caused by private motor vehicles. The SEA predicts that a growing population combined with growing visitor numbers is likely to result in a concurrent rise in the use of private motor vehicles.

These effects also need to be considered in combination with the dualling of the A9, which is set to take place over the Plan period, with work already underway within the National Park.

In terms of GHG emissions, it is not considered that the number of additional journeys created is likely to result in significant harm. Again, this is because the projections over the Plan period and beyond indicate a small reduction in the average household size and existing

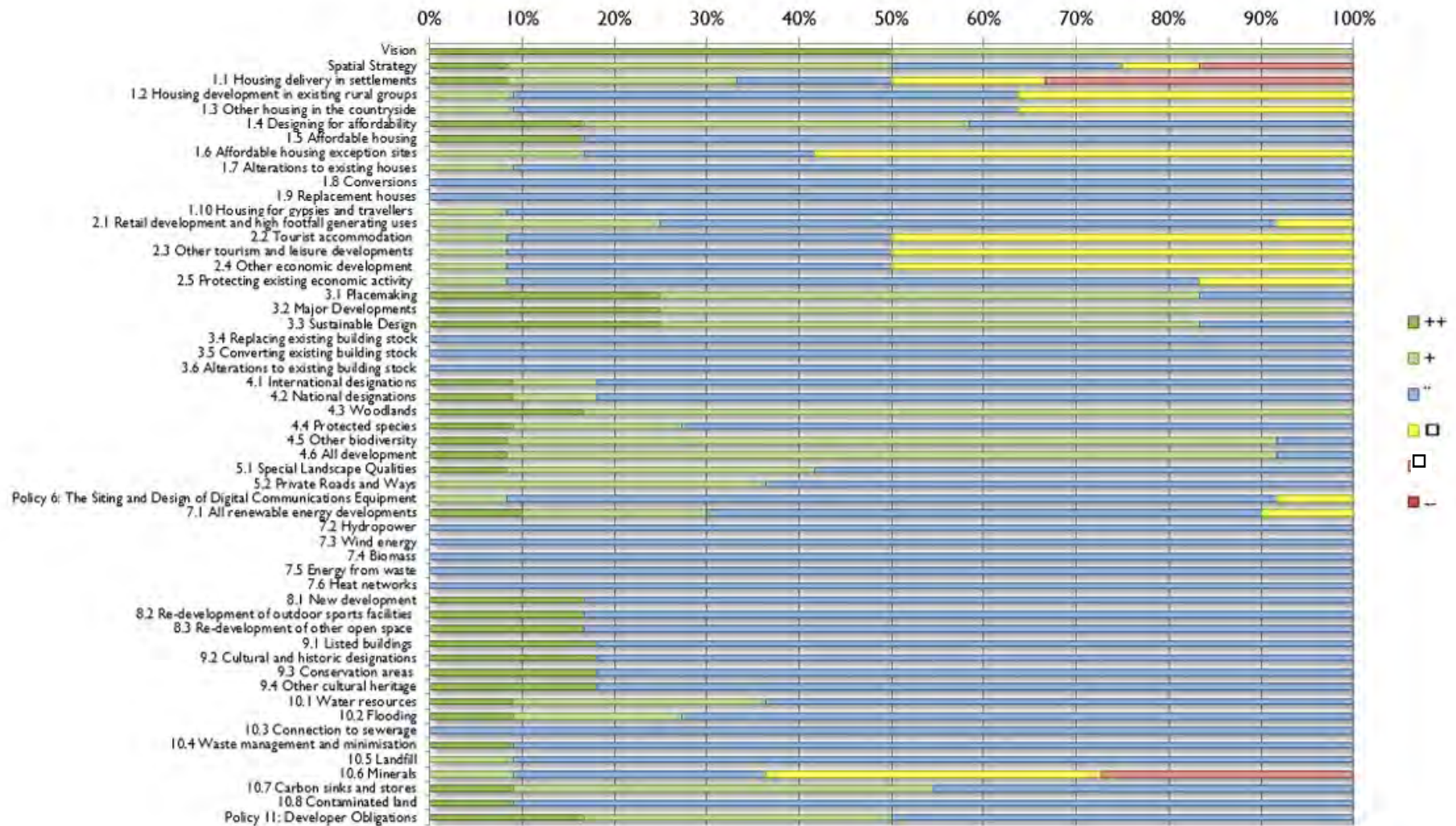


Figure 4 Summary of assessment by LDP's Vision, Strategy and Policies

population and therefore the growth in car journeys is unlikely to be high.

In terms of the effect on air quality, the fact that no air quality objectives are currently failing within the National Park and that the duelling of the A9 is likely to result in a reduction in ambient air pollution means that again, the effects are unlikely to become significant.

A number of minor negative effects have also been identified around SEA Objective 3b, which is concerned with water quality and quantity. These largely relate to potential effects from surface-water pollutants, particularly during the construction phase and the pressure developments might place on water and waste treatment infrastructure, which in some areas does not have enough capacity to meet projected growth. Since all of these effects essentially relate to the same cause, namely the development of housing, cumulative effects are not considered likely.

In fact, taken together with the work carried out by River Catchment Initiatives,

the overall effects of the Plan are likely to be positive.

In terms of soil and peat quality, minor effects relate to the fact that most development is likely to occur on greenfield sites. There is little that can be done about this, although particularly valuable and sensitive soils should be avoided. Again, owing to the limited scale at which development is likely to take place over the Plan period, this is not expected to become significant.

Overall, the Strategy's cumulative effects are likely to be positive in nature, with strong environmental priorities protecting and encouraging the conservation and enhancement of the National Park's important habitats and species and progressive economic and recreational outcomes generating positive effects on human health and wellbeing.

Evaluation of Uncertainties and Risks

Although some policies score negatively against one or more SEA Objective, the

implementation of mitigation measures can help alleviate, if not neutralise some of these effects. It is worth noting that all but one of these potential adverse effects are only minor in nature.

A large number of uncertainties exist around the provision of tourist facilities and accommodation. This is largely because the scale and location of these can vary greatly and it is not possible to accurately predict what might come forward during the plan period. Risks are minimised by the fact the development plan contains policies that can be used to avoid any significant adverse effects.

For the same reason, uncertainties are identified around policies relating to economic development. While sites have been identified to accommodate some growth, businesses in the Cairngorms often fall within the small to medium enterprise category. Thus, need for development is often small in scale and in locations that are difficult to plan for in the long-term. Based on historical rates of development and the

nature and scale of projects, risks are considered to be low.

Uncertainty also exist around certain housing policies, in particular policies 1.2, 1.3 and 1.6. These essentially deal with windfall development outwith settlements and therefore the location of proposals is unknown. Risks are however low, largely due to the limited scale of the development these policies enable.

It is important to note that as a precautionary measure mitigation measures have not only been identified in relation to predicted adverse effects, but also where uncertainties are recognised. These are described in **Table II**.

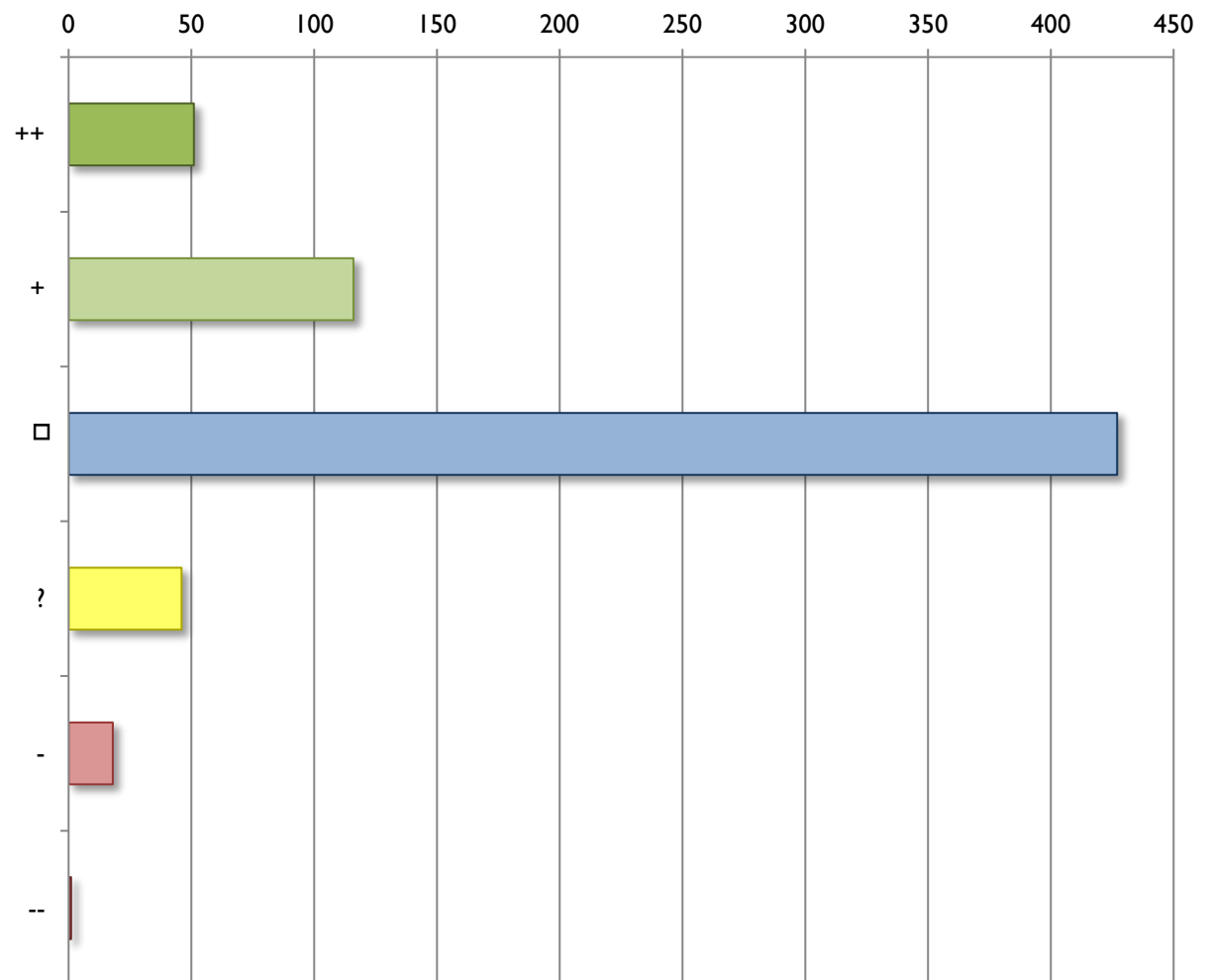


Figure 5 Overall summary of the LDP vision, strategy and policies predicted long term effects.

Key Messages from Assessment

Generally, the plan elements scored well in the assessment (**Figure 3,**

Vision

Spatial Strategy

1.1 Housing delivery in settlements

1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups

1.3 Other housing in the countryside

1.4 Designing for affordability

1.5 Affordable housing

1.6 Affordable housing exception sites

1.7 Alterations to existing houses

1.8 Conversions

1.9 Replacement houses

1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers

2.1 Retail development and high footfall generating uses

2.2 Tourist accommodation

2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments

2.4 Other economic development

2.5 Protecting existing economic activity

3.1 Placemaking

3.2 Major Developments

3.3 Sustainable Design

3.4 Replacing existing building stock

3.5 Converting existing building stock

3.6 Alterations to existing building stock

4.1 International designations

4.2 National designations

4.3 Woodlands

4.4 Protected species

4.5 Other biodiversity

4.6 All development

5.1 Special Landscape Qualities

5.2 Private Roads and Ways

Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment

7.1 All renewable energy developments

7.2 Hydropower

7.3 Wind energy

7.4 Biomass

7.5 Energy from waste

7.6 Heat networks

8.1 New development

8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities

8.3 Re-development of other open space

9.1 Listed buildings

9.2 Cultural and historic designations

9.3 Conservation areas

9.4 Other cultural heritage

10.1 Water resources

10.2 Flooding

10.3 Connection to sewerage

10.4 Waste management and minimisation

10.5 Landfill

10.6 Minerals

10.7 Carbon sinks and stores

10.8 Contaminated land

Policy 11: Developer Obligations

Figure 4, Figure 5 and Table 10). No likely significant adverse effects were identified.

Some minor adverse effects were predicted, these mostly being linked to the settlement strategy and economic growth, and the land-take associated with these. These effects have not resulted in the need to make significant changes to the Plan's proposals at this stage. Mitigation measures have been identified that address potential negative effects (**Table 11**).

Table 10 Summary of SEA's conclusions on Vision, Strategy and Policies.

Long Term Significance	Count	%
++	51	7.7%
+	116	17.6%
□	427	64.8%
?	46	7.0%
-	18	2.7%
--	1	0.2%

Mitigation

Table 11 Summary of measures proposed to mitigate any negative effects arising from the implementation of the LDP. Site specific mitigation measures can be found in Appendix 7.

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
Ia Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	The Settlement Strategy and Policy I partially mitigates themselves by supporting the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. Furthermore, Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, including encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy technologies into development, requiring a high standard of design and the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network. The overall policy approach is supported by the Cairngorms NPPP, particular Policy 3.2.	The effects of climate change have been a key consideration in the formation of the LDP's overall Settlement Strategy, with the focus of Strategic and Intermediate Settlement's designed to reduce the reliance on private motor vehicles. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed to direct development to these more sustainable locations Policies 3, and 7 also have elements that require the delivery of different types of mitigation that will limit the effects of the site on the climate, including building high quality and energy efficient buildings that incorporate renewable energy technologies. Through these policies, where appropriate development should include provision for improved pedestrian and public transport infrastructure. This may include the provision of pavements, public footpaths, cycle tracks and improved on-site access.	CNPA	2020-2025
Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change	Development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy.	The Settlement Strategy has been designed to locate development in the most sustainable locations, a key part of which has been the desire to locate development in those areas		

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
	<p>Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be subject to some risk. Where necessary, these site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary. Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5. It is however important to note that the development of these sites is unlikely within the Plan period.</p>	<p>least susceptible to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>With respect to flood risk, both present and future, development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be subject to some risk. Where necessary, these site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary.</p> <p>Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy</p>		

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
		on the SEA Objective. Both policies may also be used to ensure that flood resistant building measures are incorporated into developments. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5.		
2 Protect and enhance air quality	The policy partially mitigates itself by supporting the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. Furthermore, Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, including encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy technologies into development, requiring a high standard of design and the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network. The overall policy approach is supported by the Cairngorms NPPP, particular Policy 3.2.	The Settlement Strategy supports the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed to direct development to more sustainable locations. Furthermore, Policies 3 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, including encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy technologies into development, requiring a high standard of design and the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network. The overall policy approach is supported by the Cairngorms NPPP, particular Policy 3.2.		
3a Reduce flood risk	Development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management	Development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management	CNPA	2020-2025

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
	<p>(Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be subject to some risk. These site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary. Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5. It is however important to note that the development of these sites is unlikely within the Plan period.</p>	<p>(Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be subject to some risk. These site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary. Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5. It is however important to note that the development of these sites is unlikely within the Plan period.</p>		

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
3b Maintain and improve the quality of water resources	Development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be subject to some risk. These site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary. Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5.	Policy 10 requires SUDS to be implemented as part of all developments in order to manage on-site run-off and reduce flood risk in adjacent areas. Management schemes can be put in place to ensure negative effects do not arise during construction.	CNPA	2020-2025

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
4 Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.	While a minor negative effect has been identified, the strategy aims to minimise the loss of soil by directing development to the most sustainable locations and encouraging the coalescence of uses. Sites are also scaled so that their use is maximised through the requirement to deliver higher densities than has been the historic norm. Policies 3, 4 and 10 also have elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective.	In order to maximise the use of land, thereby reducing the negative effects on soil, sites have been allocated to offer the highest density of development possible, without appearing out of place with their surroundings.	CNPA	2020-2025
5 Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets.	No mitigation required.	No mitigation required.	N/A	N/A

<p>6a Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive wild species and habitats</p>	<p>Ecological appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on biodiversity. Where necessary, these have been included within the Settlement Information Section of the Proposed Plan and their requirements will need to be met to gain planning permission. Where necessary, the requirement for further surveys has been identified. Where no site specific requirements have been identified, requirements are set out by Policy 4, which seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity, while Policies 5 and 11 also have some positive synergistic effects on the SEA Objective.</p> <p>With regard to Capercaillie, the CNPA is in the process of developing a Capercaillie Framework, which it is intended the LDP support, which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bring together existing knowledge on the state of Capercaillie across the Cairngorms National Park, the combined knowledge of the pressures they face, particularly with regard to recreation and housing development; and the suite of management measures 	<p>Ecological appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on biodiversity. Where necessary, these have been included within the Settlement Information Section of the Proposed Plan and their requirements will need to be met to gain planning permission. Where necessary, the requirement for further surveys has been identified. Where no site specific requirements have been identified, requirements are set out by Policy 4, which applies to all development, and seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity.</p> <p>Mitigation is applied through Policy 4, with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4.1 dealing with the potential effects on International Designations, such as SACs, SPAs, SSSIs and Ramsar sites; ➤ 4.2 dealing with the potential effects on national designations such as SSSIs, NNRs and NSAs; ➤ 4.3 dealing with the potential effects on woodland habitats, including areas identified on the AWI; ➤ 4.4 dealing with the potential effects on protected species, including European Protected Species, species protected under Schedule 1, 1A, A1 and 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside 	<p>CNPA</p>	<p>2020-2025</p>
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	<p>currently being deployed, using spatial mapped data where possible;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ inform future decisions about co-ordinated deployment of management measures for Capercaillie conservation; ➤ identify what else we may need to do, where we may need further investment or resources and highlight the future agenda for management action. <p>The CNPA has published a report on Phase I of the Framework (2015). This takes the form of a map-based framework that helps to co-ordinate the management of the National Park with the aim of safeguarding and expanding the Capercaillie population across the area.</p> <p>Work on Phase 2 is underway and is supported by Heritage Lottery Funding. Where effects are identified from the development of sites, further funding for mitigation may be levied through Policy 11. The HRA on the LDP has identified the areas where this is likely to be the case and mitigation measures have been identified included within the LDP where necessary.</p>	<p>Act 1981 and badgers and their sets, as required but h the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4.5 dealing with the potential effects on other habitats and species, such as those listed in Annexes I I of V of the EC Habitats Directive, Annex I of the EC Birds Directive, CNAP, UKBAP, Birds of Conservation Concern and Scottish Biodiversity List. ➤ 4.6 dealing with the potential effects any other protected priority habitat or species that may be present on or adjacent to a site. <p>Policies 5 and 11 also have some positive synergistic effects on the SEA Objective as landscaping schemes can deliver biodiversity gain while Policy offers the means to fund broader scale mitigation.</p> <p>With regard to Capercaillie, the CNPA is in the process of developing a Capercaillie Framework, which it is intended the LDP support, which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bring together existing knowledge on the state of Capercaillie across the Cairngorms National Park, the combined knowledge of the pressures they face, particularly with regard to 		
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		<p>recreation and housing development; and the suite of management measures currently being deployed, using spatial mapped data where possible;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ inform future decisions about co-ordinated deployment of management measures for Capercaillie conservation; ➤ identify what else we may need to do, where we may need further investment or resources and highlight the future agenda for management action. <p>The CNPA has published a report on Phase I of the Framework (2015). This takes the form of a map-based framework that helps to co-ordinate the management of the National Park with the aim of safeguarding and expanding the Capercaillie population across the area.</p> <p>Work on Phase 2 is underway and is supported by Heritage Lottery Funding. Where effects are identified from the development of sites, further funding for mitigation may be levied through Policy 11. The HRA on the LDP has identified the areas where this is likely to be the case and mitigation measures have been identified included within the LDP where necessary.</p>		
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SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
6b Maintain and improve the sustainable management of woodland for multiple benefits	Ecological appraisals, which included an assessment of the condition of woodlands and trees that may be affected by development, have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on biodiversity. These have been included within the Settlement Information Section of the Proposed Plan and their requirements will need to be met to gain planning permission. Where necessary, the requirement for further surveys has been identified. Policy 4 also seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity, while Policy 5 also has some positive synergistic effects on the SEA Objective.	Ecological appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on woodlands. Policy 4, which applies to all development seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity as a whole, with Policy 4.4 specifically seeking to avoid the loss of woodland habitats, including areas identified on the AWI.	CNPA	2020-2025
7 Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the National Park's landscape and cultural and historic heritage	Landscape appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on the special qualities of the National Park. Although the effects of this policy are uncertain, Policies 4 and 5 will help mitigate against any of the possible negative effects facing the National Park's landscape	Landscape appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on the special qualities of the National Park. As the overarching strategy for policy within the National Park the NPPP offers a means of mitigation that would need to be incorporated within the Proposed LDP. NPPP Policy 1.3 seeks to ensure that the management of the National Park results in	CNPA	2020-2025

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
		<p>the conservation and enhancement of the National Park's special qualities.</p> <p>Within the LDP itself, Policy 5 aims to ensure that the impact of development on landscape will be limited and where possible contribute to its enhancement. Additionally Policy 4 and Policy and 8 offer synergistic effects as habitat mitigation and compensation and the protection and creation of open spaces can contribute positively to landscape quality. With respect to the historic environment, Policy 9 provides the primary means of avoiding negative effects, with:</p> <p>9.1 dealing with the potential effects on listed buildings;</p> <p>9.2 dealing with the potential effects on cultural and historic designations such as scheduled monuments, inventory battlefield sites and designed gardens and landscapes</p> <p>9.3 dealing with the potential effects on conservation areas; and</p> <p>9.4 dealing with the potential effects on all other heritage assets, including those identified on the Sites and Monuments and Records.</p>		

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
		<p>Policy 3 also plays an important role in not only avoiding negative effects, but also delivering enhancements. Specifically:</p> <p>3.1 requires all developments to meet the six qualities of successful places;</p> <p>3.2 requires all major developments to be subject to masterplans or development briefs, meaning that opportunities can be taken at a strategic level to manage the effects of development on landscape quality and heritage assets</p> <p>3.3 requires development to meet a variety of tests, including that development be sympathetic to the traditional pattern and character of the surrounding area, use materials and landscaping that complement the setting of the development and improve or add to existing public and amenity open space.</p> <p>Where necessary, landscaping requirements have been highlighted in the Site information of the LDP.</p>		
8a Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities.	Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, Policy 11 allows the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to	The desire to co-locate housing with other community facilities has been a key consideration in the formation of the LDP's overall Strategy as it promotes walking and cycling and provides easy access to health facilities. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed	CNPA	2020-2025

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
	walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network.	<p>to locate development in the most sustainable locations, which limit the need to travel by elsewhere to get involved in community interactions.</p> <p>Healthy lifestyles are indirectly prompted through Policy 3, and in particular Policy 3.1, which requires all development to meet the six qualities of successful places, including the need to be safe and pleasant, welcoming and easy to move around and beyond.</p> <p>Policy 8 also promotes healthy lifestyles through encouraging the development and protection of recreational facilities and other open spaces, both formal and informal.</p> <p>Policies 4 and 5 both have elements that offer synergistic effects as good biodiversity mitigation and landscaping schemes can double up as recreational spaces and encourage people to engage in their surrounding environment. More practically, Policy 11 offers the means of delivering these.</p>		
8b Support vibrant, safe and healthy communities.	Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, Policy 11 allows the LPA to ask for developer	The desire to co-locate housing with other community facilities has been a key consideration in the formation of the LDP's overall Strategy. Policies 1 and 2 have been	CNPA	2020-2025

SEA Objective	Policy Measures	Site Measures	Lead Authority	Proposed Timescale
	obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network.	designed to locate development in the most sustainable locations, which limit the need to travel by elsewhere to get involved in community interactions. Policies 3, 4, 5, 9 and 11 all have elements that will help mitigate many of the effects of the site on the SEA Objective. In Particular Policy 3.1 requires all development to meet the six qualities of successful places, which requires development to be safe and pleasant, welcoming and easy to move around and beyond, all of which can contribute positively towards enabling people, to engage with their environment and those they share it with. This is supported by Policy 3.3, which requires development to add to excising public and amenity space and maintain and maximise all opportunities for responsible outdoor access.		

Monitoring

“...focusing monitoring on the significant environmental effects identified in the assessment is likely to encourage the creation of new monitoring regimes. It is therefore practical to make a clear link between the significant effects predicted within an assessment and the indicators selected to monitor the likely environmental effects.”

SEA Guidance
(Scottish Government, 2013)

It is a requirement of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or program are monitored. This environmental monitoring may in turn form part of the monitoring framework for the LDP itself.

SEA monitoring should be undertaken for the following reasons:

- to identify whether the SEA's predictions of environmental effects were accurate;
- to identify unforeseen adverse effects and to enable appropriate remedial action to be taken;
- to identify whether the plan is contributing to the achievement of SEA Objectives;
- to identify whether mitigation measures are performing as well as expected;
- to identify whether any adverse effects are within acceptable limits or whether remedial action is required;
- to help compile a baseline for future plans and programmes; and
- to provide information for the EIAs of projects.

The 2005 Act does not require bespoke monitoring arrangements or timelines to be set out for SEA. Furthermore SEA monitoring should be based around the significant environmental effects identified

during the assessment. The potential significantly adverse effects has not been identified by the assessment and therefore there is not a duty under the act to establish a monitoring framework.

However, owing to the special nature of the National Park's environment and the scope of the LDP to affect it, a proposed monitoring framework is being developed. The framework designed to monitor what are considered to be the key environmental impacts of the LDP (**Table 12**, p.100). Indicators have not been developed for all SEA objectives as the potential for effects has been determined to be negligible. The indicators will be monitored as part of the LDP implementation and sit alongside the monitoring regimes of other PPS active within the Cairngorms, for example the NPPP (2017) and its successors.

This Environmental Report is not the conclusion of the SEA process and the proposed monitoring framework will be

refined following its publication. A finalised set of indicators will be set out in the Post-adoption Statement, which will be published following the LDP's approval by the Scottish Government.

Table 12 Proposed SEA Monitoring Framework.

Indicator	Related Objectives	Rationale	Source	Frequency
Estimated per capita CO ₂ emissions (t) for the National Park	Ia Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Carbon dioxide emissions account for around 82% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK. As the population of the National Park grows it is important to ensure it does so sustainably and that per capita emissions continue to decline for significant adverse effects to be avoided.	Department of Energy and Climate Change	Annual
	Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change			
Area of land permitted on 1:200 floodplain	3a Reduce flood risk	The estimated total average annual cost of damage in Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) within and overlapping the National Park is £1,071,000. To avoid significant adverse effects it is important to ensure that floodplains remain functional and people and infrastructure are not placed at increased risk.	CNPA	Annual

Indicator	Related Objectives	Rationale	Source	Frequency
Water quality classification of waterbodies within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park	3b Maintain and improve the quality of water resources	Good water quality is essential for many of the National Park's important wetland habitats and species as well as for providing clean drinking water.	SEPA	Annual
Area under peatland restoration	4 Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.	Peat and carbon rich soils offer a range of important ecosystem services as well as being important ecosystems in their own right.	CNPA	Annual
Area of peatland lost due to development				
Estimated household waste per person (kg per person) in National Park	5 Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets	Reducing the amount of waste produced and increasing the percentage of this waste that is recycled is essential for the sustainable use and management of our material assets.	Scottish Government	Annual
Estimated recycling rate (%) in National Park				
Number cappercaillie recorded during the annual lek count	6a Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive native species and habitats	The LDP's spatial strategy focuses growth on the main settlements as identified in the current and future LDP. Many of these settlements are near to important habitats and protected sites, for example Glenmore and the River Spey near Aviemore.	CNPA	Annual
Number cappercaillie recorded during the annual brood count			NatureScot RSPB FCS	Annual
Number of cappercaillie recorded during the National Winter Survey			NatureScot RSPB	Every 6 years (Most recent count Winter 15/16)

Indicator	Related Objectives	Rationale	Source	Frequency
The Ecological status of waterbodies within and overlapping the National Park			SEPA	Annual
Number of new ponds created, including SuDS ponds.		Wetlands area CNAP priority habitat and development may result in its loss. Developemnt can however be the driving force behind creating new wetlands, in particular through the creation of SuDs schemes.	CNPA	Annual
Percentage of designated features in favourable condition		It is important that the application of the LDP avoids having adverse effects on designated sites. The LDP should have a positive effect. The indicator will provide information for a wide range of habitat types.	NatureScot	As and when sites are assessed.
Area of new native woodland created in the National Park	6b Maintain and improve the sustainable management of woodland for multiple benefits	Woodlands offer a range of important ecosystem services as well as being important ecosystems in their own right.	FCS	Annual
Change in the wildness of land within the National Park.	7 Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the National Park's landscape and cultural heritage	Changes to land management practices and the development delivered through the LDP could have an effect of the special qualities of the landscape, with relative wildness being an important part.	CNPA NatureScot	Once at end of Plan period

Indicator	Related Objectives	Rationale	Source	Frequency
Percentage of visitors using active travel during their stay	8a Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities.	In 2015, 16% of visitors used active travel during their stay in the National Park. An increase in this level would contribute towards the National Park's overall sustainability.	CNPA	2020
Percentage of new dwellings with a selling price below the overall median house price of the National Park	8b Support vibrant, safe and healthy communities.	Access to suitable housing is essential for the health and wellbeing of communities. Houses sold at or above the median price are however out of the range of those with incomes around the median. Delivering 'affordable housing' is therefore essential to avoid significant adverse effects.	CNPA	Annual
Average distance of households from key community facilities (e.g. post office, petrol station, primary school, secondary school, GP).		Facilities such as post offices and primary schools are essential for the viability of communities while facilities such as GPs are important for supporting healthy lifestyles. The indicator can be compared against 2012 and 2016 baselines.	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation	2020

Consultation / Next Steps

“Consultation with the Consultation Authorities at screening and scoping stages has a statutory duration period of 28 days and five weeks respectively.”

SEA of Development Plans
(Scottish Government, 2010)

The SEA Environmental Report was submitted to the SEA Gateway and consulted on with the CAs during early 2019. Following consultation on the Environmental Report, the CNPA considered the comments received and amended the SEA where appropriate.

After the LDP is adopted an Adoption Statement will be published to meet the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

The CNPA will monitor significant effects following the adoption of the LDP in accordance with the Scottish Government’s SEA Guidance (2013).

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Appendices

Appendix I: Plans, Policies and Strategies

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
International Directives and Policies			
The Clean Air Policy Package (EC, 2013)	The package consists of a Clean Air Programme for Europe with air quality objectives for the period up to 2030, a revised National Emission Ceilings Directive (currently under review) with stricter national emission ceilings for the six main pollutants, and a proposal for a new Directive to reduce pollution from medium-sized combustion installations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human Health 	The Proposals of the Plan should not adversely affect air quality.
Directive 91/676/EEC: Nitrates Directive	Requires member states to reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and to prevent further such pollution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should not increase water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources.
Directive 92/42/EC: The Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora	Requires member states to sustain populations of naturally occurring flora and fauna by sustaining areas of habitats to maintain ecologically and scientifically sound levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan must ensure protection and enhancement of European sites and protection of European Protected Species.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
Directive 1999/31/EC: Landfill of waste Directive	The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air, and on human health from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Population and Human Health 	Plan should promote the waste hierarchy and work towards reducing landfill waste.
Directive 2000/60/EC: The Water Framework Directive	Requires member states to achieve good ecological status of inland water bodies, and develop integrated catchment management and river basin management plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should support protection and enhancement of the water environment.
Directive 2001/42/EC: Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive	Requires Strategic Environmental Assessments to be undertaken for plans, programmes and strategies with significant environmental effects.	➤ All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Enables significant environmental effects of the Plan to be identified and addressed.
Directive 2001/81/EC (NECD): National Emissions Ceiling Directive	Sets ceilings for each member state for emissions of ammonia, oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide and volatile organic compounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should reflect the purpose of the Directive and should not adversely affect air quality.
Directive 2002/49/EC: Environmental Noise Directive	Aims to define a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to the exposure to environmental noise	➤ Population and Human health	Plan should seek to ensure policies and developments do not result in negative health

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
			and wellbeing effects resulting from noise.
Directive 2006/7/EC: Bathing Water Directive	Aims to protect the public and the environment from faecal pollution at waters used for bathing by a large number of visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should consider the contribution that actions could make towards the attainment of bathing water quality standards.
Directive 2006/113/EC: The Shellfish Waters Directive	Aims to protect or improve shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth. It is designed to protect the aquatic habitat of bivalve and gastropod molluscs, which include oysters, mussels, cockles, scallops and clams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should seek to avoid negative effects on shellfish waters, which in the National Park context include Freshwater Pearl Mussel.
Directive 2006/118/EC: Groundwater Daughter Directive	Made under the Water Framework Directive, the Daughter Directive aims to prevent and limit inputs of pollutants to groundwater.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should where possible contribute to the protection of groundwater resources.
Directive 2007/60/EC: Floods Directive	Requires member states to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Water ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should reduce and manage flood risk encouraging natural flood management approaches.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
Directive 2008/50/EC: Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe	Establishes standards for air quality and sets limits for various pollutants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support measures that would improve air quality.
Directive 2008/98/EC: Waste Framework Directive	The revised EU Waste Framework Directive establishes the legislative framework for the handling of waste by member states.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Material assets ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should, if needed, provide a strategic context for waste management within the National Park.
Directive 2009/28/EC: Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources	Establishes a common framework for the production of energy from renewable sources and the promotion of its use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors 	Plan should seek to promote the development and use of appropriate renewable energy sources.
Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds	Requires member states to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitats to maintain ecologically and scientifically sound levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should support protection and enhancement of bird habitat through policies and targets.
European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (European Council, 1992)	<p>European adopted under the auspices of the Council of Europe to protect and promote historical regional and minority languages in Europe.</p> <p>The charter identifies Gaelic as being an endangered language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan can support the Gaelic language by encouraging good design and placemaking.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
European Framework for Sustainable Development (2001)	Promotes quality of life, coherent and cost effective policy making, technological innovation, stronger involvement of civil society and business in policy formulation. Strategies for sustainable economic growth should support social progress and respect the local environment.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Plan should support social progress and respect the local environment.
European Landscape Convention (2000)	Promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should be a tool for the maintenance and restoration of landscapes and their natural habitats.
European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011)	Strategy aims to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should support conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.
European Union Climate Change Agreement 2007	EU member states agreed to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent by 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors 	Plan should seek to promote the development and use of appropriate renewable energy sources and contribute to climate change mitigation.
European Union Common Agricultural Policy	Sets policy for agricultural support with increased emphasis on rural development support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human Health 	Plan should recognise and provide for rural diversification of economic activities.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
European Union Policy Framework for Climate and Energy (2020 to 2030)	A framework for EU climate and energy policies in the period from 2020 to 2030. At the heart of the 2030 framework is a 40 % reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.	➤ Climatic Factors	Plan should seek to promote the development and use of appropriate renewable energy sources and contribute to climate change mitigation.
Kyoto Protocol (UNFCCC, 1997)	Protocol to the international Framework Convention on Climate Change Framework with the objective of reducing the Greenhouse gases that cause climate change.	➤ Climatic factors	Plan should support measures that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (Council of Europe, 1995)	The Strategy aims to reverse the decline of landscape and biological diversity, by promoting innovation and proactive policy making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support the Strategy by considering the contribution that actions could make to protecting biodiversity and landscapes.
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance 1971	Requires conservation and wise use of wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should ensure the protection and enhancement of wetlands.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
Sixth Environmental Action Programme of the European Community 1600/2002/EEC	Promotes Clean Air for Europe (CAFÉ), supports sustainable use of pesticides, conservation of the marine environment, soil protection, waste prevention and recycling as well as the sustainable use of natural resources.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Plan should promote all forms of sustainable development.
Taking Sustainable Use of Resources Forward: A thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste (EU 2005)	A sector based strategy produced under the Environmental Action Programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Air ➤ Material assets 	Plan should seek to minimise waste and promote recycling.
Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection (EU 2006)	The Soil Thematic Strategy is seeking to establish common principles for the protection and sustainable use of soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should contribute towards the protection and improvement of soil.
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	Key objective of the Convention is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, which should be integrated across other policy sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should look for opportunities to conserve, and where possible restore, biodiversity.
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Rio Earth Summit) 1992	Treaty aimed at reducing global emissions of greenhouse gases to combat global warming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors 	Plan should assist in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

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National Legislation (UK and Scotland)			
Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000 and Amendment 2002	Establishes standards for air quality and sets limits for various pollutants in Scotland.	➤ Air ➤ Population and Human health	Plan should support measures that would improve air quality.
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended by Historic Environment (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2011)	Prescribes the approach to be taken to planning for scheduled ancient monuments and archaeological areas.	➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage	Plan should ensure that scheduled ancient monuments and archaeological areas are not adversely affected by new development.
Climate Change Act 2008	The Act sets a statutory target for the UK as a whole to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050 and provides a framework for shared action. In Scotland, its targets are subsumed by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	➤ Climatic factors	Plan should support and include climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.
Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Outlines emission reduction targets, adaptation measures, and establishes duties on public bodies.	➤ Climatic factors	The Plan should support and include climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended for Scotland)	These regulations relate to the designation of European sites, and provision of protection to various plant and animal species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and ➤ Flora 	Plan should ensure that European sites are protected from loss or damage.
Environment Act 1995	The Act sets new standards for environmental management by National Parks and other statutory bodies.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The CNPA must adhere to the standards set out in the Act.
Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Requires Strategic Environmental Assessments to be completed for plans, programmes and strategies likely to have significant environmental effects.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Enables the significant environmental effects of the Plan to be identified and addressed.
Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (Scotland) Regulations 1999	Requires environmental impact assessments for certain forestry projects.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Plan will be required to be compatible with Environmental Impact Assessments legislation.
Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2011	Requires environmental impact assessment of site specific projects and specifically requires consideration of Sensitive Areas including National Parks.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental	The Plan will be required to be compatible with Environmental Impact Assessments legislation.

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		Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	
Equality Act 2010	The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society.	➤ Population and Human health	The Plan should ensure that it does not result in individuals or groups with protected characteristics being discriminated against.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	Establishes roles, responsibilities and requirements for sustainable flood management.	➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health	Plan should support flood management, particularly natural flood management.
Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005	The Act aims to secure Gaelic as an official language of Scotland, "commanding equal respect" with English	➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and Human health	In its production the Plan should meet the requirements of the Act and enable and other partners, including those not covered by the Act, to do the same.
Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014	Has the general function of investigating, caring for and promoting Scotland's historic environment.	➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage	Plan should support the protection and preservation of the historic environment.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
Housing (Scotland) Act 2014	Makes provision about housing, including provision about the abolition of the right to buy, social housing, the law affecting private housing, the regulation of letting agents and the licensing of sites for mobile homes.	➤ Population and Human health	Plan should support the provision of housing, particularly affordable housing.
Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003	Establishes right of responsible access to land and water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan can provide for and support responsible access.
National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000	Specifies what a Park Authority can do and how it should be run, including a requirement to produce a National Park Plan.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Establishes the aims of National Parks. Provides direction on the functions and role of the National Park Authority.
Nature Conservation Act (Scotland) 2004	Act places duties on public bodies for conserving biodiversity, increases protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), amends legislation on Nature Conservation Orders, provides for Land Management Orders for SSSIs and associated land, strengthens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should support conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
	wildlife enforcement legislation, and requires the preparation of a Scottish Fossil Code.		
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997	Prescribes the approach to be taken in planning for listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Material Assets ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Plan should ensure that listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens are not adversely affected by new development.
Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended)	Protects badgers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should seek to protect badgers.
Sewage (Scotland) Act 1968	Along with the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 this gives responsibilities to Scottish Water to manage the discharge of surface water that enters its drainage systems (by providing sewers and public Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs)) and to maintain water supplies and drainage infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should have regard to Scottish Water's duties under this Act.
Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003	Transposes the Water Framework Directive into Scots law.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should encourage improvements to the water environment and support measures for more efficient use of water.

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Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002	Along with the Sewage (Scotland) Act 1968 this gives responsibilities to Scottish Water to manage the discharge of surface water that enters its drainage systems (by providing sewers and public Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs)) and to maintain water supplies and drainage infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should have regard to Scottish Water's duties under this Act.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Requires certain species to be protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should support protected species.
Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011	Amends Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and seeks to modernise game law; abolish the designation 'areas of special protection'; improve snaring practice; regulate invasive non-native species; change the licensing system for protected species; amend current arrangements for deer management and deer stalking; strengthen protection of badgers; change how muirburn can be practised; and make operational changes to the management of Sites of Scientific Interest; game law, use of shores, and invasive species legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should support provisions of the Act.

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National Policy (UK and Scotland)			
Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)	Sets out objectives for eight air pollutants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.
A Policy on Architecture for Scotland (2001 updated in 2006)	Scottish Government Guidance 2001.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support good design.
A Policy Statement for Scotland – Designing Places	Provides the policy context for important areas of planning policy and design guidance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support good design.
Changing Our Ways: Scotland's Climate Change Programme	Demonstrates how Scotland will deliver carbon savings from devolved policy measures and reduce its vulnerability to the changing climate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.
Choosing our future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy	Outlines a strategic framework for the Scottish Government's strategies on climate change, transport, renewable energy, energy efficiency, green jobs and biodiversity.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Plan should help deliver sustainable development.

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Civil Contingencies Act 2004	Delivers a framework for civil protection in the UK and defines the responsibilities for responders to emergency which include (among others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Material Assets ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support the requirements of responders to fulfil their statutory duties.
Cleaner Air for Scotland – The Road to a Healthier Future (2015)	The national cross-government strategy that sets out how the Scottish Government and its partner organisations propose to reduce air pollution further to protect human health and fulfil Scotland's legal responsibilities as soon as possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Population and Human health 	Strategy should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.
Climate Change: The UK Programme	Goal to reduce carbon emissions in the UK by 60% by 2050.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Air 	Plan should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.
Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland (SEPA, 2009)	This policy aims to provide a sustainable future for Scotland's groundwater resources by protecting legitimate uses of groundwater and providing a common SEPA framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil 	Plan should aim, where possible, to manage significant flood risk to groundwater from flooding related pollution.
Designations Three Year Plan 2016 - 2019	This document sets out the three year plan for Historic Environment Scotland's work on designations. Find the aims and priorities for the organisation until 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Plan should follow the guidance when considering designated sites and structures.
Historic Environment Circular 1	This circular covers the requirements of the secondary legislation ('the Regulations') relating to the Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014 ('the 2014 Act').	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Plan should follow the guidance for policy development on the

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
			management of the historic environment.
Historic Environment Policy Statement (2016)	Document to which planning authorities are directed in their consideration of applications for conservation area consent, listed building consent for buildings of all three categories and their consideration of planning applications affecting the historic environment and the setting of individual elements of the historic environment.	➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage	Plan should follow the guidance for policy development on the management of the historic environment.
Land Use Strategy for Scotland (2011)	Outlines strategy for achieving sustainable land use across Scotland and getting the best from the land of Scotland.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Plan can provide more specific direction on the National Land Use Strategy and can be implemented at a regional level.
Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes	Series of guidance notes which are designed to support the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) and Scottish Planning Policy.	➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage	Guidance for policy development on the management of the historic environment.
National Planning Framework 3 (2014)	A long term strategy for Scotland that provides the spatial expression of the Government's Economic Strategy and plans for the development and investment in infrastructure.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Provides strategic context for future regional change around the Park.

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Scotland Policy on Control of Woodland Removal	Sets out Scottish Ministers policy on woodland removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should support the policy
The River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River Basin District: 2015–2027	Fulfils a requirement under the EU Water Framework Directive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Includes management objectives for water bodies in the National Park which the Plan should take account of.
Scotland Rural Development Programme	Sets goals for sustainable rural development and the types of support available.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Plan can provide more specific direction on how rural development and diversification should be supported in the Park.
Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework (2009)	The framework plays a central role in building Scotland's resilience to the changing climate, by setting the strategic direction for Scottish Government actions and providing specific actions for different sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic factors ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support and include climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.
Scotland's Economic Strategy	Reaffirms the Scottish Government's commitment to creating a more successful country, with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Material assets ➤ Population and Human Health 	Plan should encourage economic development that

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
	opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.		does not adversely affect the special qualities of the Park.
Scotland's National Transport Strategy (2006)	Scottish Government's National Strategy for reducing transport emissions by 80%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Air ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support reductions in emissions from transport.
Scottish Biodiversity Strategy	<p>Comprises of two documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scotland's Biodiversity – It's in Your Hands. A strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Scotland (2004) • 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity - A Strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Scotland (2013) <p>Identifies Scottish biodiversity priorities and lead partners for taking action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should reflect the purpose of the Strategy through support for the Cairngorms Nature Action Plan 2013 - 2018.
Scottish Forestry Strategy (2006)	Outlines strategic priorities for forestry including management, planting and environmental stewardship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soils ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should provide a strategic direction for forestry policy within the National Park.
Scottish Geodiversity Charter 2012-2017	Charter sets out why geodiversity is important, and presents a vision that geodiversity is recognised as an integral and vital part of our environment, economy,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	The CNPA is a signatory to the Charter and therefore the

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
	heritage and future sustainability to be safeguarded for existing and future generations in Scotland.	➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage	Plan should include actions to help meet its objectives.
Scottish Government's Infrastructure Investment Plan (2011)	Gives an overview of the Scottish Government's plans for infrastructure investment over the coming decades.	➤ Material Assets ➤ Population and Human health	Plan should take account of potential impacts (both positive and negative) of actions on existing and planned developments.
Scottish Government's National Outcomes	The Scottish Government has 15 National Outcomes that the public sector must collectively deliver.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Plan should identify and contribute to delivery of the outcomes that are most appropriate in the Park.
Scottish Government Purpose	The Scottish Government's purpose is to secure sustainable economic growth for Scotland. All the public sector should be working to the purpose.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Plan should support the delivery of sustainable economic growth in the context of the Park and its special qualities and management needs.
Scottish Planning Policy (2014)	National planning policy and guidance covering a range of topics relevant to the Local Development Plan.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	In its spatial strategy and policies, the Plan will need to meet the requirements set out within Scottish Planning Policy.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
Scottish Soil Framework 2009	Ministers policies and objectives for the conservation and use of soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should promote soil conservation.
Scottish Water Business Plan 2015 - 2021	The business plan sets out how Scottish Water will deliver improvements to drinking water quality, the environment and customer service required by Scottish Ministers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should be developed with regard to the objectives and actions proposed in the Business Plan.
Scottish Zero Waste Plan (2010)	Provides context for waste planning in Scotland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Soil ➤ Material assets ➤ Population and Human health 	Directs the Plan to secure zero waste in new development through support for waste management and good design.
Tourism Scotland 2020 – A Strategy for Leadership and Growth	The strategy targets those markets that offer Scotland the greatest growth potential, provides collaboration within and across Scotland's tourism destinations and develops the authentic memorable experiences tourists seek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support development of sustainable tourism to contribute to national targets for tourism growth.

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UK Geodiversity Action Plan	The Action Plan provides a framework in which actions for geodiversity can be captured in one place, allowing a range of organisations, groups and individuals to demonstrate their achievements in a UK-wide context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Material Assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	The CNPA is a signatory to the Scottish Geodiversity Charter and therefore the Plan should include actions to help promote and protect the National Park's geodiversity.
UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework 2011 – 2020	The Framework sets out the common purpose and shared priorities of the UK and Scotland for the management of the environment as a whole.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should reflect the purpose of the Framework through support for the Cairngorms Nature Action Plan 2013 - 2018.
Local Plans and Strategies			
A9 Duelling Strategy	The project involves the upgrade of 80 miles of single carriageway along the A9 between Perth and Inverness by 2025.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Plan will need to consider the effects of the duelling on the aims of the National Park and how this will influence the spatial priorities of the CNPA.
Cairngorms National Park Capercaillie Framework 2015	Provides a set of working data, analysis and recommendations that will inform implementation across a wide spectrum of work, from habitat and species management, to recreation management and development planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should support the aims of the Framework and ensure that Capercaillie and their habitat are not adversely

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
			affected by management and planning decisions.
Cairngorms National Park Core Paths Plan 2015	Identifies a network of core paths throughout the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan should support the promotion and development of core paths.
Cairngorms National Park Economic Strategy 2015-2018	The purpose of the Strategy for the Cairngorms National Park is to identify the priorities that are specifically relevant to the area and to ensure that partners are working together to address them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Population and Human Health 	Plan should support the National Park's aim to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.
Cairngorms National Park Landscape Framework	A framework for managing landscape change in the Cairngorms to maintain and enhance the special landscape qualities and character.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Plan will use this to guide appropriate development to the right location.
Cairngorms National Park Gaelic Language Plan 2013	A plan that aims to enhance the Gaelic Language and culture within the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan can support the Gaelic language through good design and placemaking.
Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2015	Establishes development and settlement strategy for the Park, allocates specific development sites, and provides policies for managing development in the Park.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	This is the current framework for development within the National Park. The Plan will need to take account of its contents.

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Cairngorms Nature Action Plan 2013-2018	Priorities and actions for biodiversity in the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should support the implementation and review of Cairngorms Action Plan
Active Cairngorms (2015)	Provides a framework for managing outdoor access in the Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan can support and promote responsible outdoor access.
Community Plans	Plans set out how public services will be planned and delivered, through consultation and co-operation.	All SEA Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Plan can support parts of Community Plans.
Community Visions and Local Community Action or development Plans	Statements from communities in the Park about how they would like to change or develop in future, sometimes with plans on how to get there.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and Human health 	Plan can support communities in developing their own plans and capacity.
Housing Need and Demand Assessments (prepared by local authorities as housing	Assess housing need and demand in each local authority area, and identify likely future need and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Population and Human health 	HNDAs inform housing requirement for the National Park.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
authorities for each council area)	demand to inform housing strategies and development plans.		
Economic Development Strategies	Priority areas for economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil ➤ Material assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage ➤ Population and human health 	Plan should encourage economic development that does not adversely affect the special qualities of the Park.
Local Authority Single Outcome Agreements	Strategic documents outlining priorities across communities in the National Park.	All SEA issues listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	Plan can help deliver community priorities.
Local Housing Strategies (prepared by local authorities as housing authorities for each council area)	Required by the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001. Sets out how housing authorities will provide for housing needs and demands in their area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Population and Human health 	LHS can be used to provide evidence to support the approach taken to the delivery of housing within the National Park.
Regional and Local Transport Strategies	Set out how to maintain and improve infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climatic Factors ➤ Air 	Plan should support sustainable transport solutions and

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
		➤ Population and Human health	encourage lower carbon forms of transport.
River Dee Catchment Management Plan (2007)	Aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, to improve water quality and biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Plan should support integrated catchment management as a way of improving water quality and the health of natural systems.
River Spey Catchment Management Plan (2003)	Aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, to improve water quality and biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should support integrated catchment management as a way of improving water quality and the health of natural systems.
South Esk River Catchment Management Plan (2009)	Aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, to improve water quality and biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water ➤ Soil ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora ➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Plan should support integrated catchment management as a way of improving water quality and the health of natural systems.
Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Tourism in the Cairngorms 2011-2016	Identifies measures to support and develop sustainable management of tourism in the Park in line with the Europarc Federation of Protected Areas Charter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air ➤ Water ➤ Material assets ➤ Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora 	Plan should support the implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Strategy.

Relevant PPS	Relevant Objectives/Purpose	SEA Issue / Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the LDP
		➤ Landscape and Cultural Heritage	

Appendix 2: Environmental Baseline

Topic 1: Climatic Factors

“In recent decades, changes in climate have caused impacts on natural and human systems on all continents and across the oceans.”

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2014).

Scotland has a temperate climate with cool summers and mild winters. As a whole it is influenced by predominantly westerly depressions alternating with less frequent settled periods. A range of factors, including topography, latitude and altitude, affect these weather systems at a more local level.

Rainfall is spread throughout the year but there are regional differences. For example, the easterly position of the Cairngorms massif results in a climate that is less oceanic, and therefore drier, than the west of Scotland. The mountains exert a noticeable rain shadow effect that reduced the amount of rainfall on the eastern side of the country.

Scotland is currently experiencing climate change, which owing to the global emission of greenhouse gasses, is likely to continue into the future. The effects of this are likely to include:

- hotter, drier summers;
- milder, wetter autumns and winters.
- increased frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall; and
- reduced snowfall.

Past Trends

The 20th and 21st centuries have already seen a rise in average maximum and minimum temperatures throughout Scotland. This trend is reflected in the Cairngorms National Park, as demonstrated by historical data provided by the Braemar weather station (**Figure 6**). Records from the weather station also indicate that the National Park is experiencing a decrease in the number of days of air frost and an increase in annual rainfall (**Figure 7** and

Figure 8). This is consistent with broader trends across Scotland.

Climate Projections

Climate Change projections are available from The UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) website, which is the leading source of climate information for the UK and its regions. Probabilistic projections are available for high, medium and low emission scenarios at resolutions as fine as 25km². It is possible therefore to analyse data for the area in which Braemar sits (Grid Box No. 612) (see **Figure 9** and **Figure 10**). It is recognised that this is a blunt proxy for the National Park as a whole, however it is useful in when taken together with the historic climate data taken from the Braemar Weather Station. How this change relates to the UK as a whole is presented in **Figure 11**, **Figure 12** and **Figure 13**.

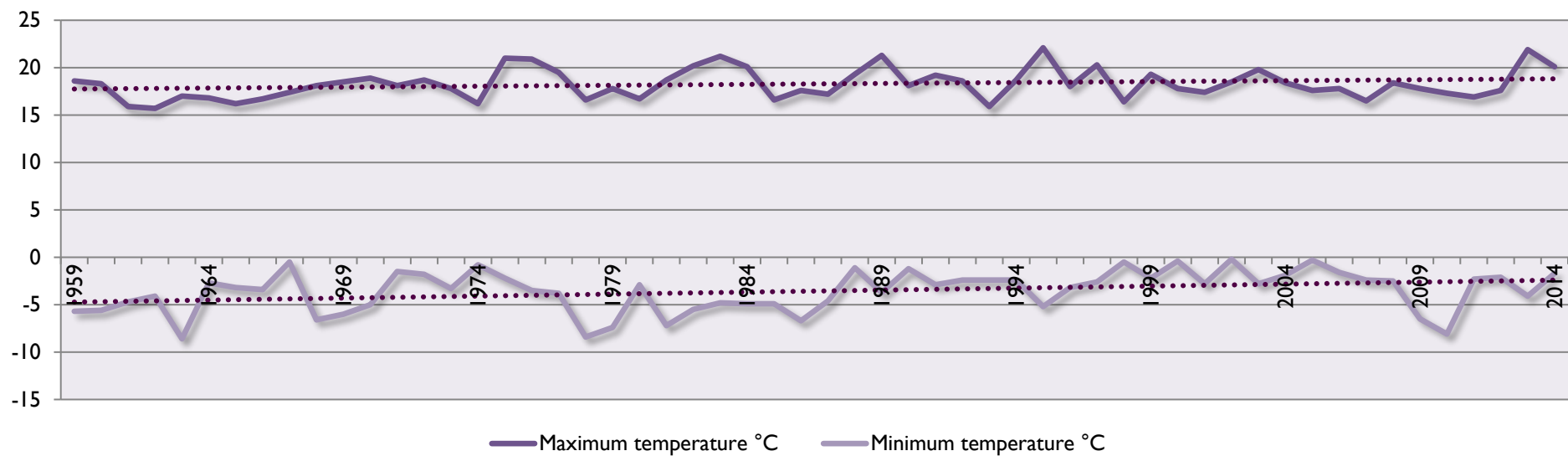


Figure 6 Maximum and minimum annual temperatures at Braemar Weather Station (Met Office, 2015).

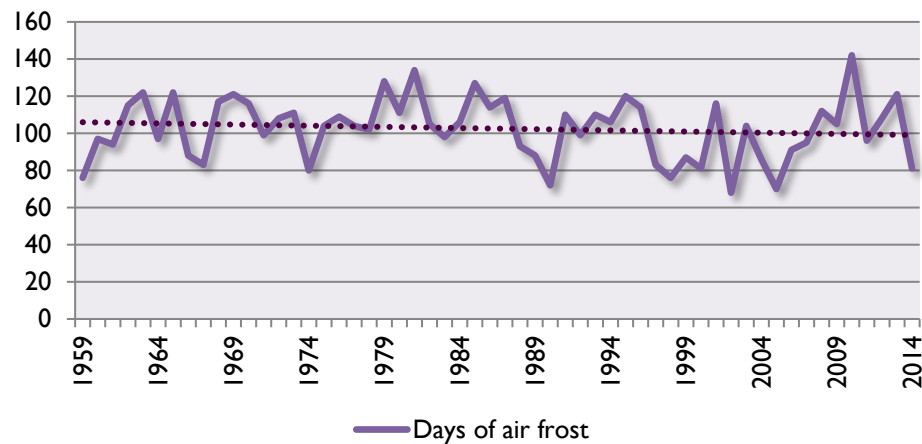


Figure 7 Days of frost at Braemar Weather Station (Met Office, 2015).

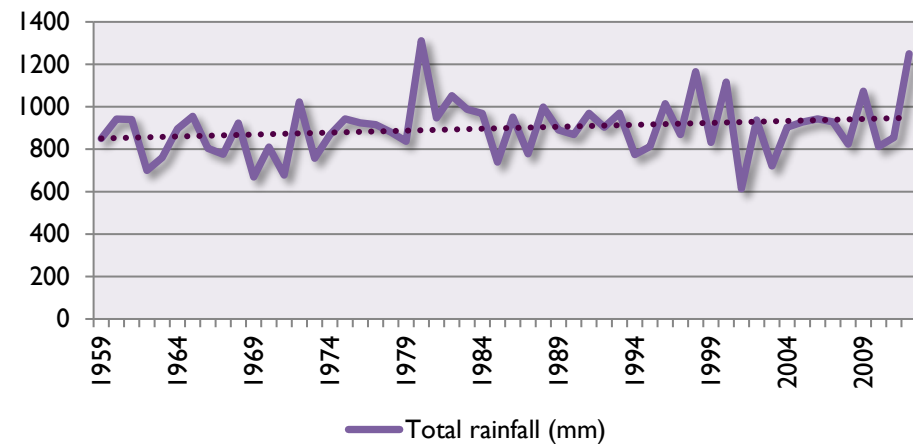


Figure 8 Total Rainfall at Braemar Weather Station (Met Office, 2015).

In summary from the benchmark of 2009, by 2050, under the medium emissions scenario, the central estimate (50% probability level) for Braemar is for a:

- 2.4°C increase in mean annual temperature,
- 2.7°C increase in mean summer temperature,
- 2.1°C increase in mean winter temperature,
- 0.07% increase in mean annual precipitation, but with a
- 13.5% decrease in mean summer precipitation, and a
- 2% decrease in mean winter precipitation.

Although precipitation rates only show a relatively small net annual increase, as well as summer and winter decreases by 2050, it should be noted that this is but a snapshot. Annual precipitation between 2030 and 2059 is projected to be higher, at around 0.3% greater than in 2009.

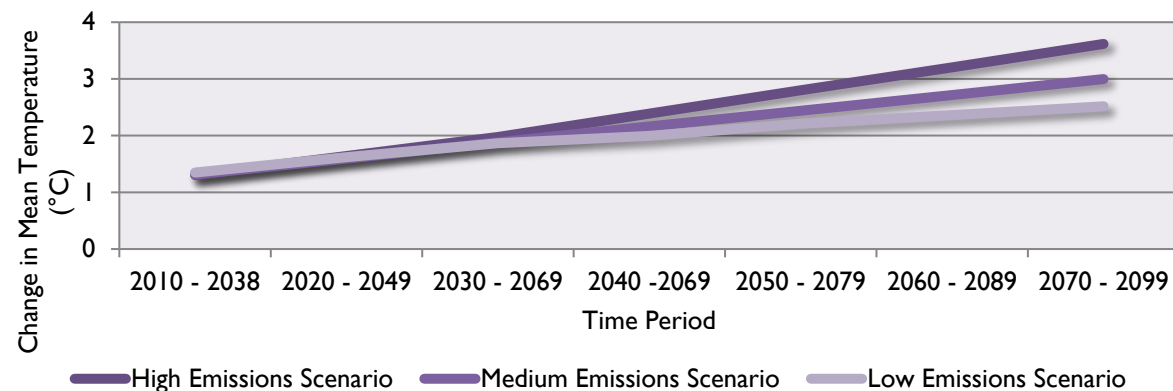


Figure 9 Central estimate for mean change in annual temperature for Grid Box No. 612 (Braemar area).

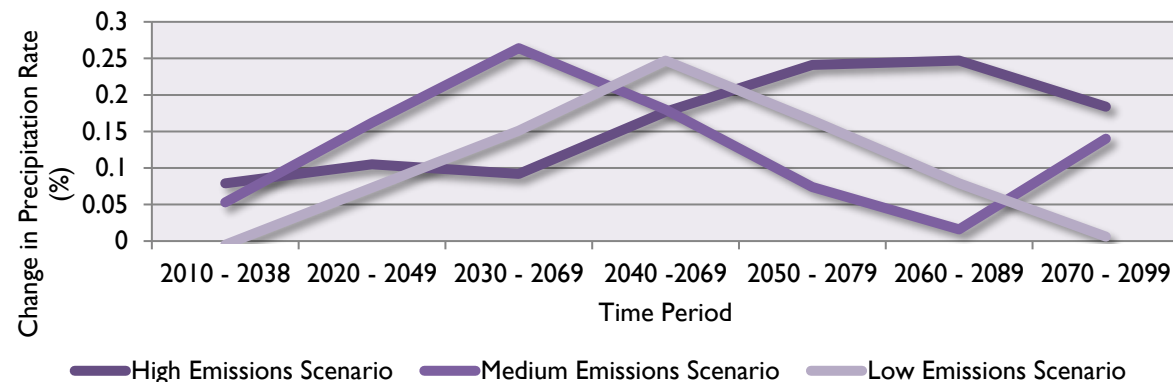


Figure 10 Central estimate for mean change in precipitation for Grid Box No. 612 (Braemar area).

© Crown Copyright 2009. The UK Climate Projections data have been made available by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) under licence from the Met Office, Newcastle University, University of East Anglia and Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory. These organisations accept no responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions in the data, nor for any loss or damage directly or indirectly caused to any person or body by reason of, or arising out of, any use of this data.

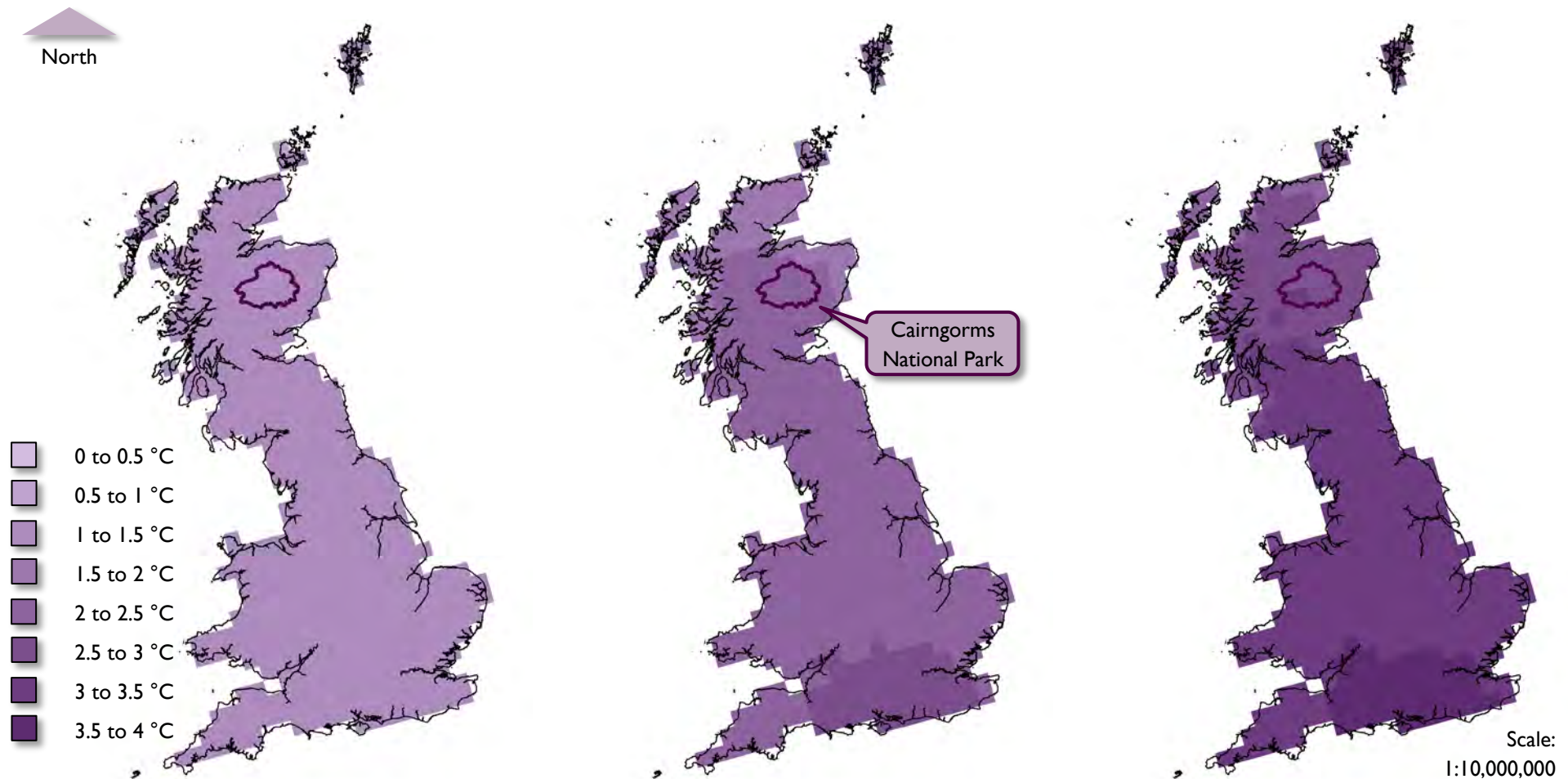


Figure 11 Mean annual temperature increase 2020s.
Medium emissions scenario, central estimate.

Figure 12 Mean annual temperature increase 2040s.
Medium emissions scenario, central estimate.

Figure 13 Mean annual temperature increase 2080s.
Medium emissions scenario, central estimate.

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It should also be noted that the use of the medium emissions scenario combined with the central probability projection represents a relatively conservative picture of the area's possible future climate. Adjusting these variables, particularly the emissions scenario, can lead to more serious projections, which at the time of writing cannot be discounted. Even with the conservative estimates provided in this summary an annual increase in mean temperature of 2.4°C would leave the National Park with some serious challenges to face.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The causes of climate change are clearly greater than local in scale and there is a strong global consensus that a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is needed to avoid some significantly adverse effects. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 has introduced legislation to reduce Scotland's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 against a 1990 baseline. In recent years, increasing emphasis has been placed

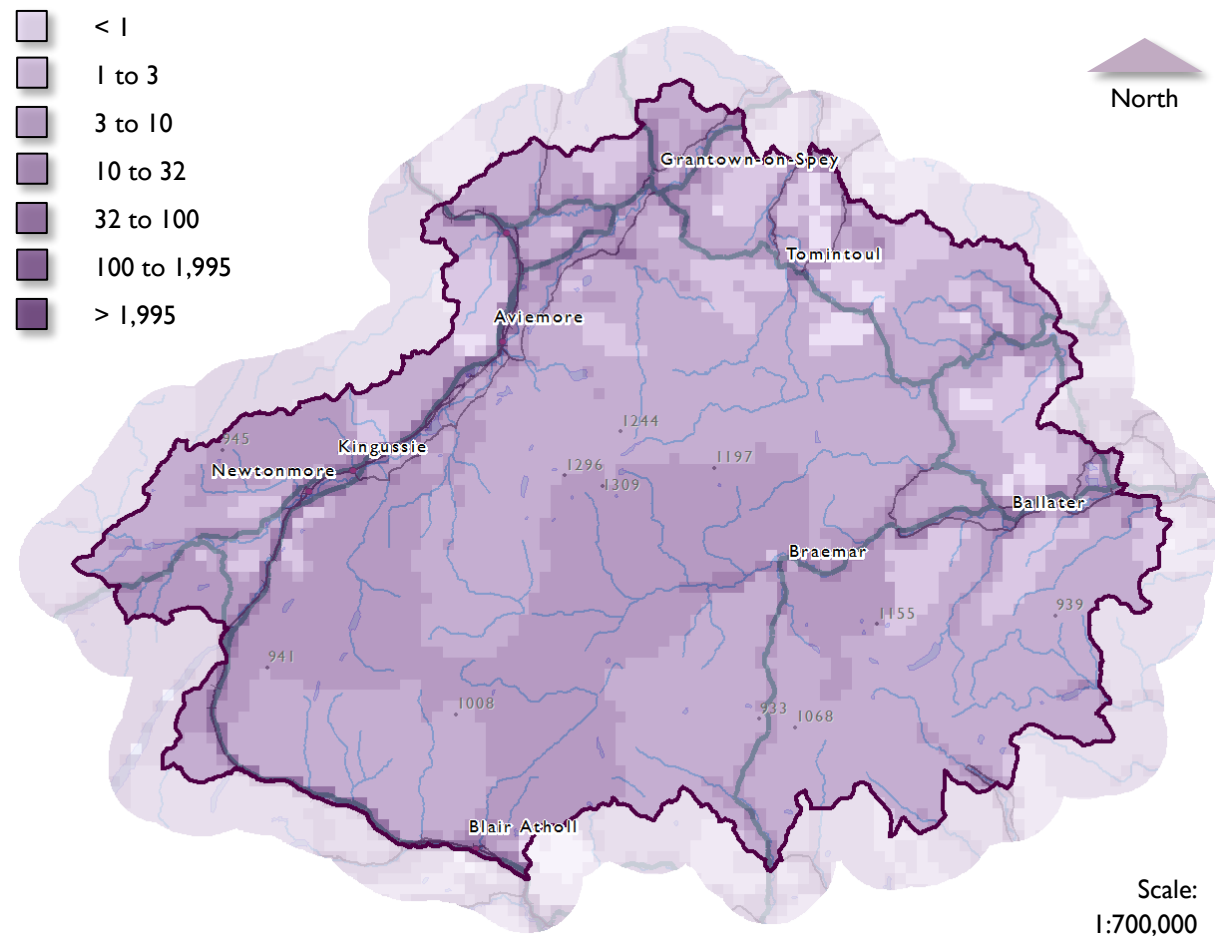


Figure 14 Carbon Dioxide (as Carbon) Emissions in tonnes for the Cairngorms National Park in 2012.

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on the role of regional bodies and local government in contributing to energy efficiency improvements, and hence reductions in carbon dioxide emissions. It is clear therefore that the NPPP has a role in meeting this target.

Estimates of carbon dioxide emissions for Local Authority (LA) areas for 2005-2014 are available from The Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC). Carbon dioxide emissions contribute the

greatest proportion of total greenhouse gas emissions in the UK, accounting for around 82% in 2014 (Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2016). Annualised data for the UK's national parks is not available and therefore to get an approximation of the Cairngorms National Park's contribution (**Figure 14**) further assumptions need to be made.

Mid-year population estimates have been used as a proxy for proportionally

attributing the emissions of the LAs that cover the National Park's area to the National Park itself. It is recognised that this is a blunt means of estimation, particularly in terms of commercial and transport data; indeed estimates based on estimates should always be treated with caution. However, in the absence of a detailed carbon-audit, the figures presented in **Table 13**, **Figure 15** and **Figure 16** offers a 'best-guess' and a generalised baseline for measurement over the plan period.

Table 13 Estimated CO₂ Emissions for the Cairngorms National Park. Based on Department of Energy and Climate Change (2016).

Year	Industry and Commercial (kt CO ₂)	Domestic (kt CO ₂)	Road Transport (kt CO ₂)	Total (kt CO ₂) ³	Population (mid-year estimate)	Per Capita Emissions (t)
2005	68.6	60.9	47.7	177.3	17,264	10.3
2006	69.5	62.9	48.7	181.1	17,590	10.3
2007	68.8	61.4	49.3	179.5	17,835	10.1
2008	67.3	62.0	47.3	176.5	18,024	9.8
2009	59.1	57.2	46.6	162.8	18,061	9.0
2010	66.1	62.0	46.7	174.7	18,366	9.5
2011	60.6	53.3	45.8	159.8	18,461	8.7
2012	59.1	54.8	45.0	158.9	18,583	8.6
2013	59.0	52.0	45.3	156.3	18,420	8.5
2014	52.3	45.2	46.2	143.7	18,594	7.7

³ Figures may not sum due to rounding.

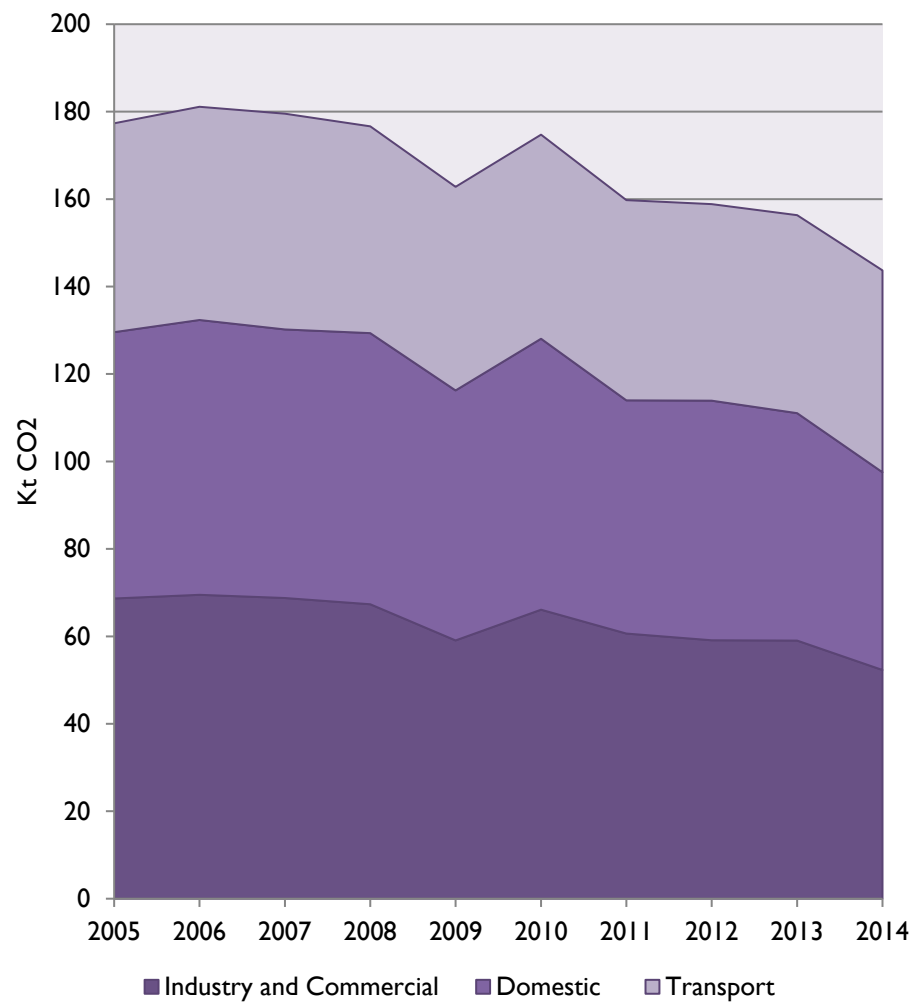


Figure 15 Estimated CO₂ Emissions for the Cairngorms National Park by sector.

Based on Department of Energy and Climate Change (2016).

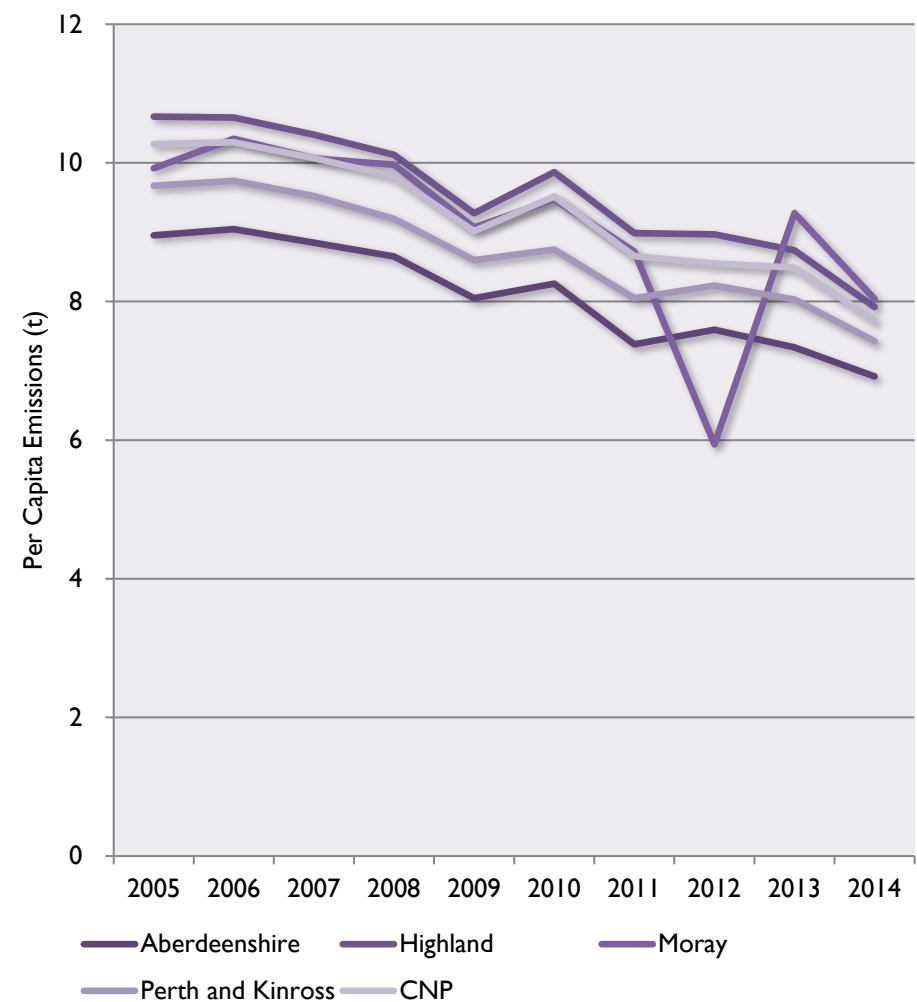


Figure 16 Estimated Per Capita CO₂ Emissions for the Cairngorms National Park by Local Authority.

Emissions from motorways, diesel railways, land use, land use change and forestry and EU ETS industrial installations are absent from the national dataset, while for the purpose of the estimates in this document, emissions for 'Large Industrial Installations' have been removed while emissions from gas, a fuel source that is only available via private supply within the National Park, have been subsumed as a generalised source of emissions into the overall 'Industry and Commercial' and 'Domestic' categories of the table. The energy consumed by the comparatively high number tourists and visitors to the National Park have not been adjusted for. It should also be noted that estimating the population of the National Park is not a simple task either as data-zone⁴ boundaries do not exactly match the National Park's boundary. Further information on the methodology used to identify boundaries and statistical

⁴ The data zone is the key small-area statistical geography in Scotland.

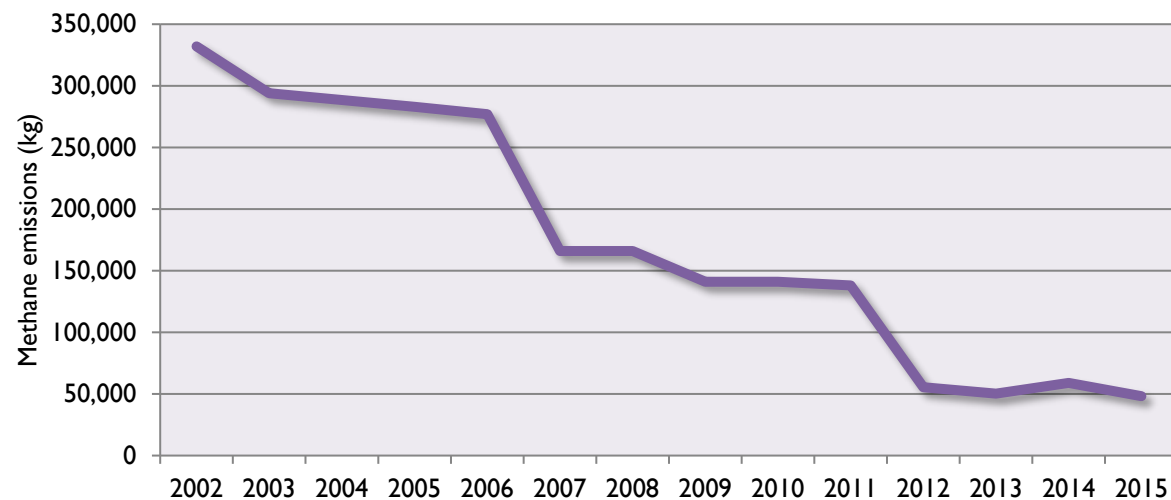


Figure 17 Estimated levels of methane released from Granish Landfill Site, Aviemore 2002-2015 (Source: <http://apps.sepa.org.uk/SPRIPA/Search/ViewReturn.aspx?returnId=30683>).

areas used in the analysis of the Cairngorms National Park can be found in **Appendix 3**.

The most recently available data relates to 2014, and estimates that per capita emissions in the National Park are 7.7 tonnes of CO₂, which is above the Scottish average of 5.7 tonnes of CO₂ per capita. This may be attributed to the deeply rural nature of the National Park and the

consequent reliance on private motor vehicles as a mode of transport (see **Figure 62** to **Figure 76** and **Figure 157** and **Figure 158**). Nevertheless, there is an indication that per capita emissions are on a downward trend, which is consistent with the national situation.

This is supported by information from the only facility within the National Park that

contributes towards the Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) - Granish Landfill site, which is operated by the Highland Council (

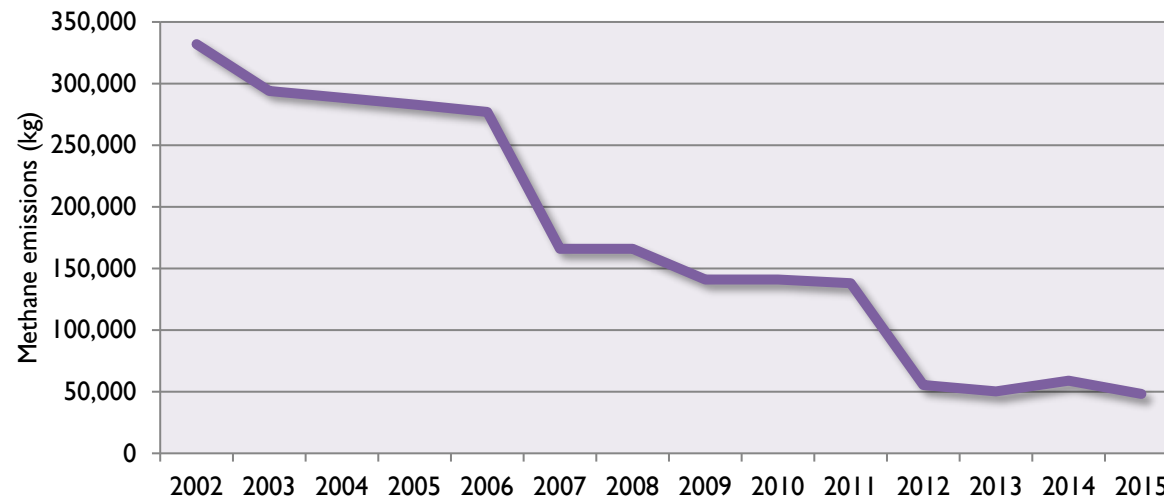


Figure 19). Estimates of the site's methane emissions are available as far back as 2002, with data suggesting a net decrease of 283,800 kg from that year.

Key Messages

Climate change is set to affect the Cairngorms National Park with the UK's climate projections offering a central estimate of a 2.4°C increase in mean annual temperature.

The drivers of climate change are greater than the National Park, however it is estimated that the Park is contributing towards a nationwide reduction in GHG emissions with per capita emissions falling to 8.9 tonnes in 2011.

The LDP may have an effect on GHG, particularly through its influence over the scale and location of development. Design policies may also play a role, as the implementation of food design should consider the energy efficiency of buildings as an integral factor.

Inter-relationships with other topics

➤ Topic 2: Air	141
➤ Topic 3: Water	145
➤ Topic 4: Soil	162
➤ Topic 5: Material Assets	173
➤ Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	193
➤ Topic 7: Landscape and Cultural Heritage	253
➤ Topic 8: Population and Human Health	282

Topic 2: Air

“In order to protect human health and the environment as a whole, it is particularly important to combat emissions of pollutants at source...”

Ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC).

Air pollution results from the introduction of a range of substances into the atmosphere from a wide variety of sources, including industry, transport and power generation. Even domestic activities such as driving, heating and cooking contribute, as do natural sources like sea salt, wildfires, volcanic activity, soil erosion and farming (Scottish Government, 2015).

Poor air quality can have both short term and long term effects on health. In general, healthy people may not suffer from any serious ill effects; however people with pre-existing health conditions (e.g. heart disease, lung conditions and asthma) may be affected by day to day changes in air pollution levels. It is estimated that in 2010, particulate matter in the air (PM₁₀ and

PM_{2.5}) could have caused the deaths of 2,094 people in Scotland.

Air pollution can also damage the wider environment, causing the acidification of soils and water, damaging plant and animal life in forests, lakes and rivers. It can also add nutrients to soil, which can affect biodiversity. Air pollution can also damage the fabric of buildings and historic monuments (Scottish Government, 2014).

The air quality objectives for Scotland are set out in the Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000 and its 2002 Amendment. The main pollutants of concern are:

- Nitrogen oxides (NO_x);
- Particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5});
- Sulphur dioxide (SO₂);
- Non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs);
- Ground-level ozone (O₃) and
- Ammonia (NH₃)

Scotland's air quality is generally better now than it has been at any time since before the Industrial Revolution, with increasingly

strict controls over industrial emissions, tighter fuel and emission standards for road vehicles and the control of smoke from domestic premises yielding positive results. Between 1990 and 2012 significant reductions were seen in the emissions of particulates (-59%), nitrogen oxides (-65%) and sulphur dioxide (-79%) (Sailsbury *et al.* 2014).

Human exposure to air pollution is now largely associated with transport emissions. The effects of this pollution are not confined to Scotland's cities but occur in many of the country's built areas. Where air quality objectives are not being met, Local Authorities have a duty under section 83(10) of the Environment Act 1995 to designate Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), where plans must be implemented to improve air quality. All air quality objectives are currently being met within the Cairngorms National Park and therefore no AQMAs exist within its boundary (the

nearest AQMAs are located in Aberdeen and Inverness). It is therefore unlikely that the LDP will cause air quality objectives to be exceeded.

Nevertheless, the influence spatial planning has over traffic levels means that air quality could be a policy concern. In particular, the potential for increasing pollutants associated with traffic emissions such as PM_{10} (**Figure 18**) and Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) (**Figure 19**) needs to be given consideration. Spatial data on the emission of both is available from the UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory for 2012. As might be expected, the highest emissions for both are located along the A9 and within National Park's main settlements of Aviemore, Granttown-on-Spey and Ballater, where traffic volumes are greatest.

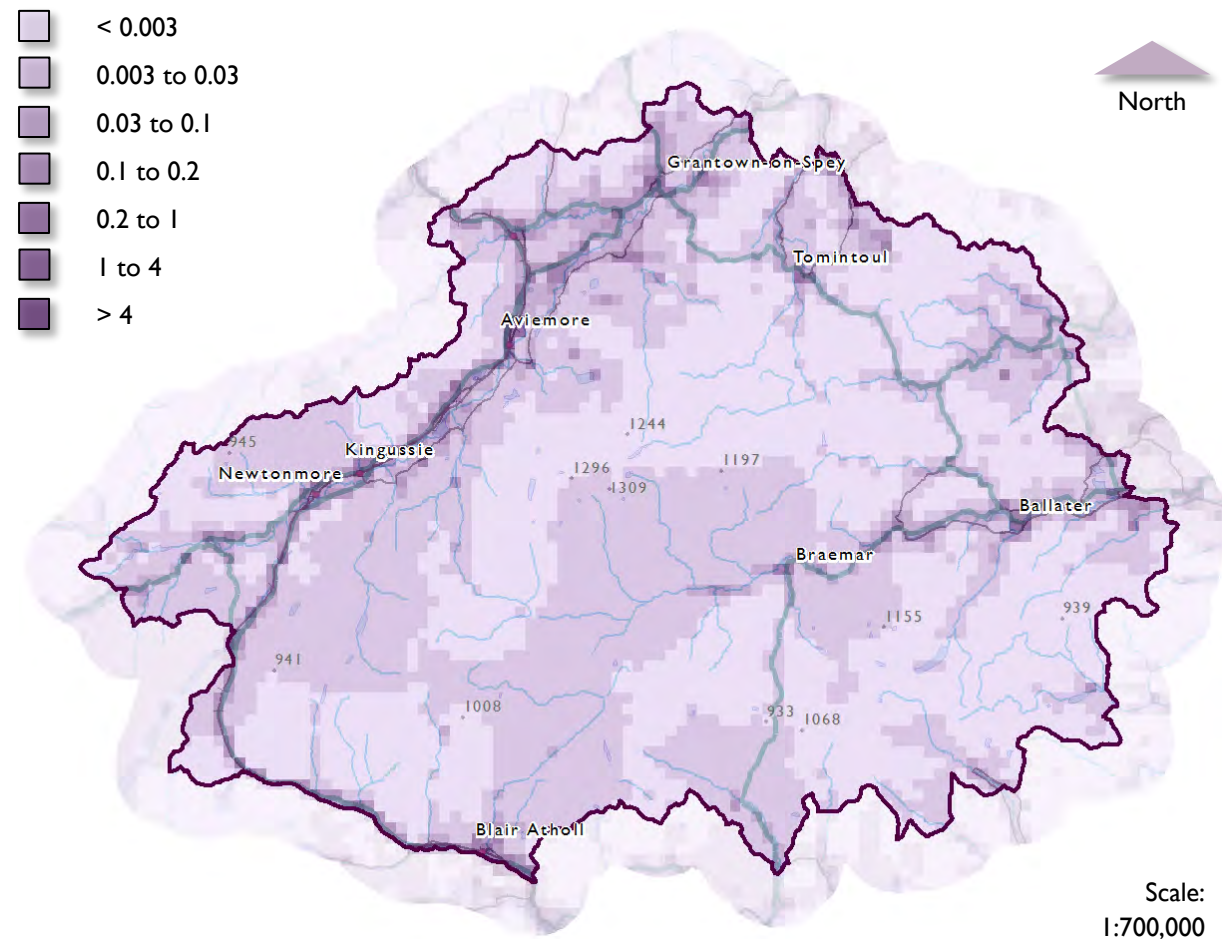


Figure 18 Emissions of PM_{10} in tonnes in the Cairngorms National Park in 2012.

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Scottish Household Survey data for 2012 / 2013 (Scottish Government, 2014) indicates that private motorised vehicle use is the main mode of transport for the LAs that cover the National Park's area, ranging from around 77% in Aberdeenshire to around 65% in Highland. While specific data for the National Park is unavailable, it is assumed that due to the area's rurality, a similar level of use exists within its boundary. Indeed, Census information collected on household access to cars or vans supports this assumption (see **Topic 5: Material Asset**, p. 173). Road traffic is on the increase across Scotland (Transport Scotland, 2014) and owing to population growth and increasing visitor numbers, is also likely to rise within the National Park over the Plan period. It is estimated that the A9 alone will see a growth in traffic in the region of 10 to 15%, even without the effects of the planned duelling (Transport Scotland, 2013).

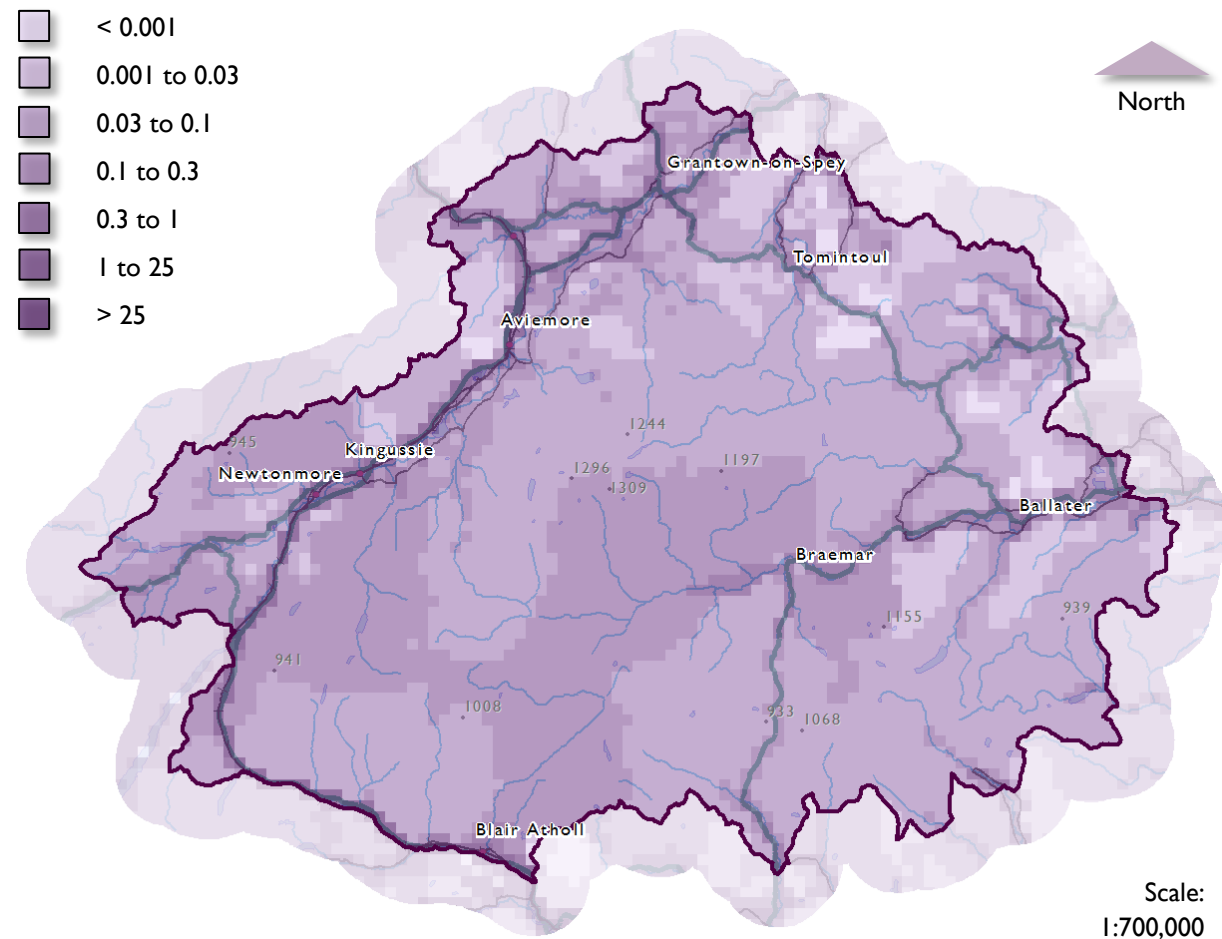


Figure 19 Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x) as NO₂ in tonnes in the Cairngorms National Park in 2012.

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The LDP's spatial strategy will therefore need to carefully consider its impact on traffic levels and seek to avoid adverse effects on air quality. It will also need to consider its relationship with the A9 Dualling Strategy (Transport Scotland, 2015), which is predicted to result in a reduction in ambient roadside carbon, NO_x and particulate levels through resultant improved traffic flows (Transport Scotland, 2013).

Key Messages

Air pollution is relatively low within the Cairngorms National Park, with no AQMAs within its boundary. However, there are localised areas along the main transport corridors where pollutants related to vehicle use are high enough to generate concern should they not be managed appropriately.

The LDP may have an influence over air quality both on its own and in combination with other PPS such as the A9 Dualling Strategy. The Plan's influence over the level and distribution of development as well as its aim to facilitate a better visitor experience, means that spatial options should be carefully considered.

Inter-relationships with other topics

➤ Topic 3: Water	145
➤ Topic 4: Soil	162
➤ Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	193
➤ Topic 8: Population and Human Health	282

Topic 3: Water

“Water is a heritage which must be protected and defended.”

The European Union Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).

The Cairngorms National Park encompasses the headwaters of three of Scotland’s major rivers as well as many smaller ones (**Figure 20**). Many of the rivers and their tributaries as well as lochs and wetlands are designated as European sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). The rivers in particular provide water for society in the National Park, and for people outside the Park as they flow downstream towards the sea.

Three of the National Park’s rivers are subject to catchment management plans, the Dee, the Esk and the Spey. These plans aim to protect water quality, direct the use of the rivers as resources, protect against flooding, enhance biodiversity, and promote access and economic development.



Figure 20 River catchment areas within the Cairngorms National Park.

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Water Quality

Pollution leading to the deterioration of water quality can originate from one of two sources, point and diffuse.

Point source discharge means a release of effluent or other matter to the water environment or land, via a pipe or outlet. For example, this includes sewage and trade effluent; surface water discharges from urban areas; and abandoned mine discharges.

Diffuse pollution is the release of potential pollutants from a range of activities that, individually, may have no effect on the water environment, but, at the scale of a catchment, can have a significant effect. Activities associated with diffuse pollution are varied and include run-off from roads, houses, commercial areas, farmland, forestry activities and community and amenity green spaces; seepage into groundwater from developed landscapes of all kinds; and yard run-off from industrial activities.

Government regulation has been extremely successful in reducing instances of point source pollution and therefore diffuse pollution is now of greatest concern. Diffuse sources of water pollution can have a significant effect of biodiversity and human health. The effects include:

- Groundwater and surface water contamination and the subsequent loss, or need for treatment of drinking water resources;
- Nutrient enrichment and eutrophication of water bodies;
- Oxygen depletion of water bodies;
- Toxicity to plant and animal life, including endocrine disruption in fish; and
- Smothering of freshwater pearl mussel beds and fish spawning gravels (Dee Catchment Partnership, 2007).

Of particular significance is the effect of water pollution on freshwater pearl mussel populations, as good water quality is essential for the completion of their life cycle (Young, 2005). Freshwater pearl mussel is one of the species on the Nature Action Plan List (Cairngorms National Park

Authority, 2013) and is one of the qualifying features for a number of the National Park's SACs, including the River Spey and River Dee SACs. Further information may be found under **Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora** (p. 193).

The European Union Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) (WFD), adopted in 2000, is the operational tool that sets out the objectives for water protection in Scotland. The WFD sets out a number of objectives in respect of which the quality of water is protected. The key ones at European level are:

- General protection of the aquatic ecology;
- Specific protection of unique and valuable habitats;
- Protection of drinking water resources; and
- Protection of bathing water.

All these objectives must be integrated for each river basin. It is clear that the last three - special habitats, drinking water areas and bathing water - apply only to specific bodies of water (those supporting special

wetlands; those identified for drinking water abstraction; those generally used as bathing areas). In contrast, ecological protection should apply to all waters: the central requirement of the WFD is that the environment be protected to a high level in its entirety (European Commission, 2014).

SEPA are the responsible authority for monitoring water quality in Scotland to the requirements set out by the WFD. The Directive requires all water features in a category (i.e. rivers, lochs, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater) above a certain size threshold to be defined as water bodies.

Surface water bodies are classified using a system of five quality classes – high, good, moderate, poor and bad, with groundwater classified as good or poor. In general, the classification of water bodies describes by how much their condition or status differs from near natural conditions. Water bodies in a near natural condition are at high status, while those whose quality has been severely damaged are at bad status

The ultimate overall aim of the WFD is therefore to ensure that these water bodies don't deteriorate in status and that all water bodies achieve at least 'good' status by 2015, unless it is demonstrated that less stringent objectives should apply (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2007).

The overall status and water quality classification of waterbodies within the Cairngorms National Park for years 2010-2014 is presented in **Figure 21, Figure 22, Figure 23** and **Figure 24**. The main reasons for waterbodies not achieving overall good status is the presence of a large number of barriers to fish and poor morphology (this covers catchment/landuse matters such inputs of fine sediments or impacts to hydrology and direct impacts such as through engineering or condition of riparian corridor).

The status of waterbodies for 2015 was not available at the time of writing. The definition of what constitutes a waterbody in the National Park is set out in **Appendix 3**.

As can be seen, the current situation is mixed, and only a minority of waterbodies are in bad or poor condition, there has been an increase in the number of waterbodies changing to a worse status or classification.

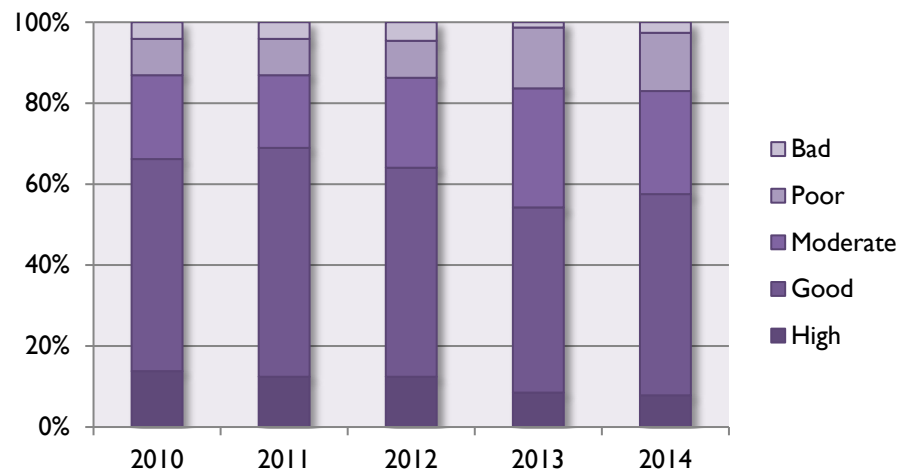


Figure 21 Overall status of waterbodies within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park.

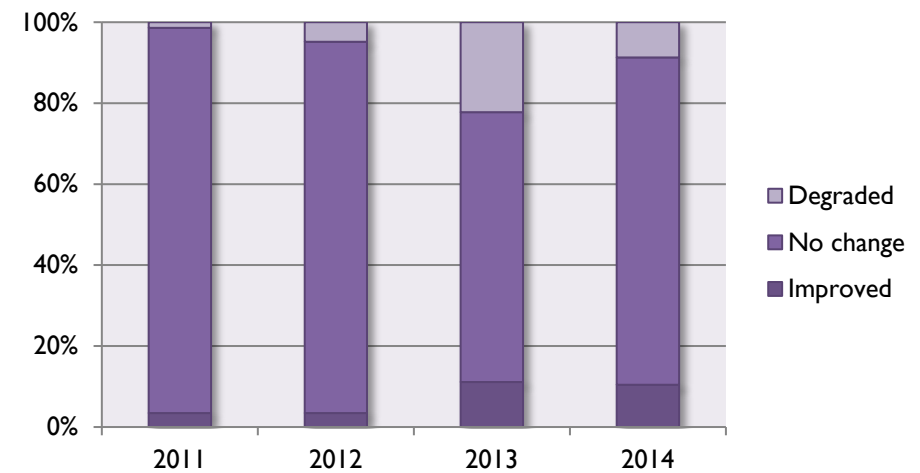


Figure 22 Change from previous year in the overall status of waterbodies within or overlapping the Cairngorms National Park

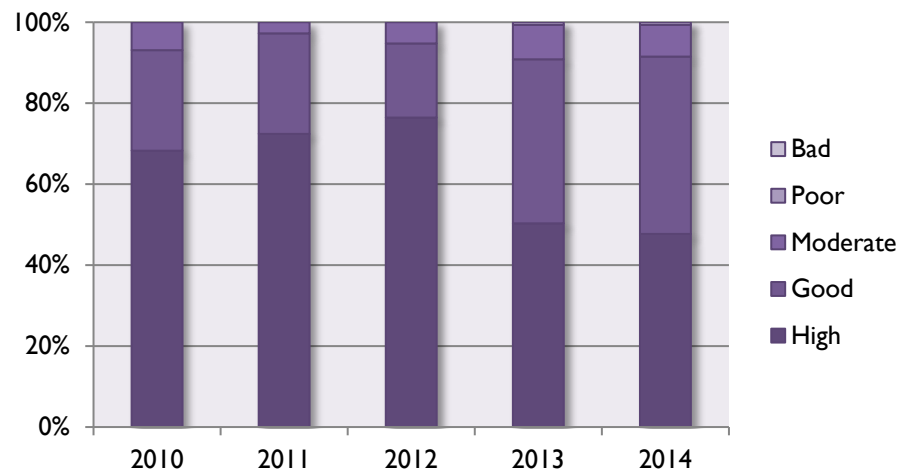


Figure 23 Water quality classification of waterbodies within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park.

Source: www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/water-body-classification/

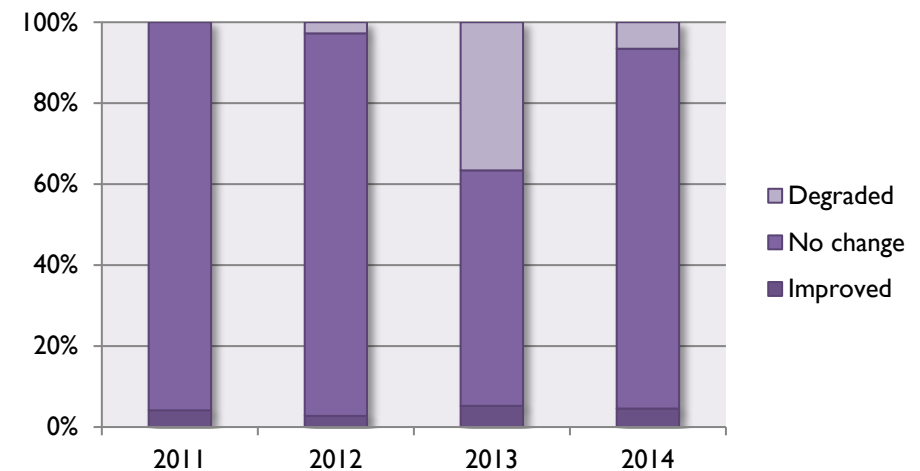


Figure 24 Change from previous year in the water quality of waterbodies within or overlapping the Cairngorms National Park

Water Quantity

In order to provide information for the management of water resources, SEPA monitor water levels at 20 sites within the Cairngorms National Park, as well as at a number of locations just outside the Park's boundary. Water levels are converted to flow at most river gauging stations. The information gathered may inform the SEA, since trends may be used as an indicator of climate change or as an identifier of potential risks, such as flooding.

Figure 25 and **Figure 26** represent the series of maximum instantaneous peak flows within a given water year (October to September) for monitoring stations on the River Spey and River Dee. The data from both stations shows a general trend for higher annual maximums over the time they were monitored. The causes of this are uncertain; however, it highlights the importance of taking into account the potential for an increase in the number and severity of flood events over the lifetime of the LDP and beyond.

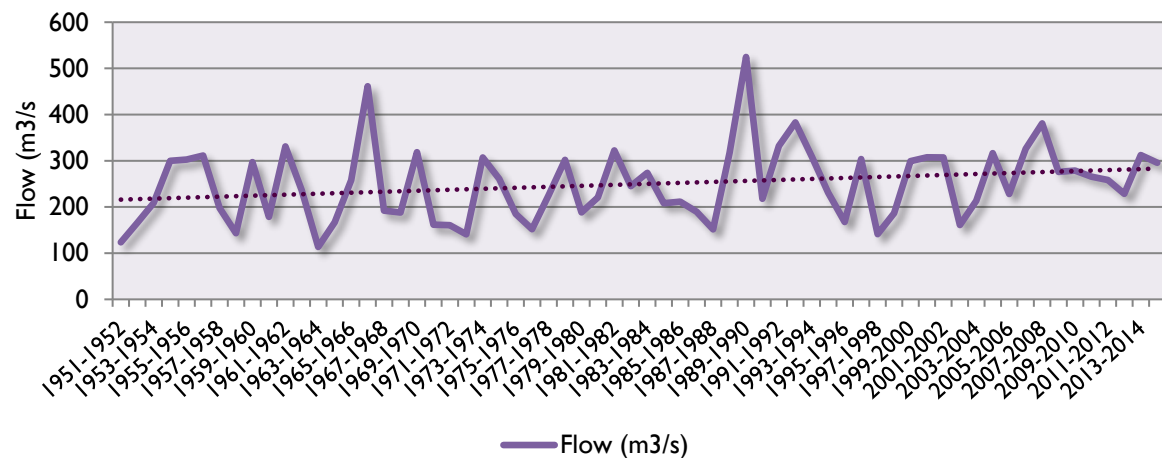


Figure 25 Annual maximum (AMAX) data for the River Spey at Granttown-on Spey (Station 8010). Contains SEPA data © Scottish Environment Protection Agency and database right 2016. All rights reserved.

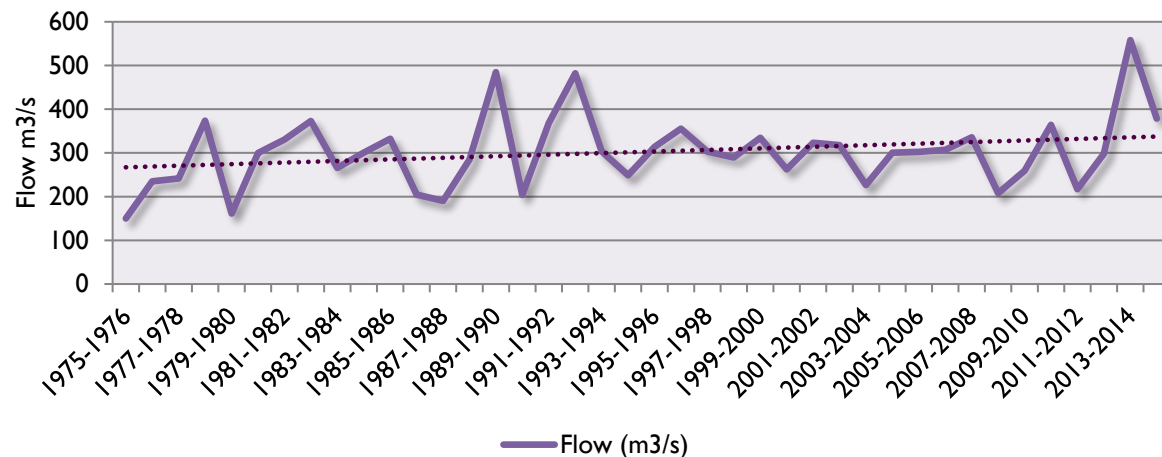


Figure 26 Annual maximum (AMAX) data for the River Dee at Polhollick, near Ballater (Station 1203). Contains SEPA data © Scottish Environment Protection Agency and database right 2016. All rights reserved.

Water Infrastructure

Whilst Scottish Water (SW) is funded to provide any strategic capacity that may be required for water supply / waste water treatment ('part 4' assets) to facilitate development, it is necessary to consider the timescale to deliver new strategic capacity to ensure that the provision of it is timed to enable development in the right place at the right time. The implications of this on any programme of development must therefore be considered. The current capacity status of the water and waste treatment works that serve the National Park's settlements is shown in **Table 12**.

Including all planned and committed development proposals, capacity exists at most of the SW water treatment works serving settlements in the National Park. There are however constraints in certain locations. For example, there is currently not enough capacity to supply the 1,500 units permitted at An Camas Mòr.

Table 14 Capacity of water and waste treatment works serving the Cairngorms National Park, July 2015 (Source: Scottish Water).

Local Authority	Settlement	Water Treatment Works	Capacity (housing units)	Waste treatment Works	Capacity (housing units)
Aberdeen-shire	Ballater	Ballater	93	Ballater	93
	Braemar	Braemar	315	Braemar	63
	Dinnet	Ballater	93	Dinnet	<10
	Strathdon	Lumsden	<10	Private	N/A
Angus	Angus Glens	Private	N/A	Private	N/A
Highland	An Camas Mòr	Aviemore	966	Aviemore	60
	Aviemore	Aviemore	966	Aviemore	60
	Boat of Garten	Aviemore	966	Boat of Garten	96
	Carr Bridge	Aviemore	966	Carr Bridge	87
	Cromdale & Advie	Aviemore	966	Cromdale	105
	Dalwhinnie	Dalwhinnie	20	Dalwhinnie	<10
	Dalnain Bridge	Aviemore	966	Dalnain Bridge	24
	Glenmore	Private	N/A	Glenmore	<10
	Grantown of Spey	Aviemore	966	Grantown	197
	Insh	Aviemore	966	Insh	<10
	Inverdrue & Coylum Bridge	Aviemore	966	Aviemore	60

More significantly, the current capacity of many waste treatment works serving the National Park is a constraint to development. For example, the Aviemore treatment works, which serves the eponymous town and much of the surrounding area, including An Camas Mòr, only has capacity for a further 60 units.

Therefore, investment in both water and waste treatment works will be necessary for the National Park's permitted and projected growth to be met sustainably.

Where there is no public water supply network within the vicinity there would be a need either for a private water treatment system or to lay a new water infrastructure to the existing public network, and early discussion with SW would be required.

Where there is no public sewer network a private wastewater treatment system may be required. Early engagement with SEPA to discuss the specific requirements and approval of any private systems is essential.

Local Authority	Settlement	Water Treatment Works	Capacity (housing units)	Waste treatment Works	Capacity (housing units)
Highland	Kincraig	Aviemore	966	Kincraig	52
	Kingussie	Aviemore	966	Kingussie	327
	Laggan	Laggan Bridge	<10	Laggan Bridge ST	<10
	Nethy Bridge	Aviemore	966	Nethy Bridge	70
	Newtonmore	Aviemore	966	Newtonmore	208
Moray	Glenlivet	Tomnavoulin	<10	Private	N/A
	Tomintoul	Blairnamarrow	65	Tomintoul	46
Perth & Kinross	Blair Atholl	Killiecrankie	2000+	Blair Atholl	16
	Bruar & Pittagowan	Killiecrankie	2000+	Private	N/A
	Calvine	Killiecrankie	2000+	Private	N/A
	Glenshee	Private	N/A	Private	N/A
	Killiecrankie	Killiecrankie	2000+	Killiecrankie	<10

Flooding

All of the National Park's rivers and watercourses have the potential to flood to some degree (**Figure 27**). Most concern is generated along the National Park's main straths and glens, as when the rivers and tributaries that flow along these, namely the Spey, Dee and Don, break their banks, they often result in economic, and occasionally human, cost. Small watercourses also represent a risk but are often poorly understood with respect to the severity of the flood hazard that can be generated on a catchment scale. Furthermore, in some areas surface water flooding, which can arise for a number of reasons, is a significant risk.

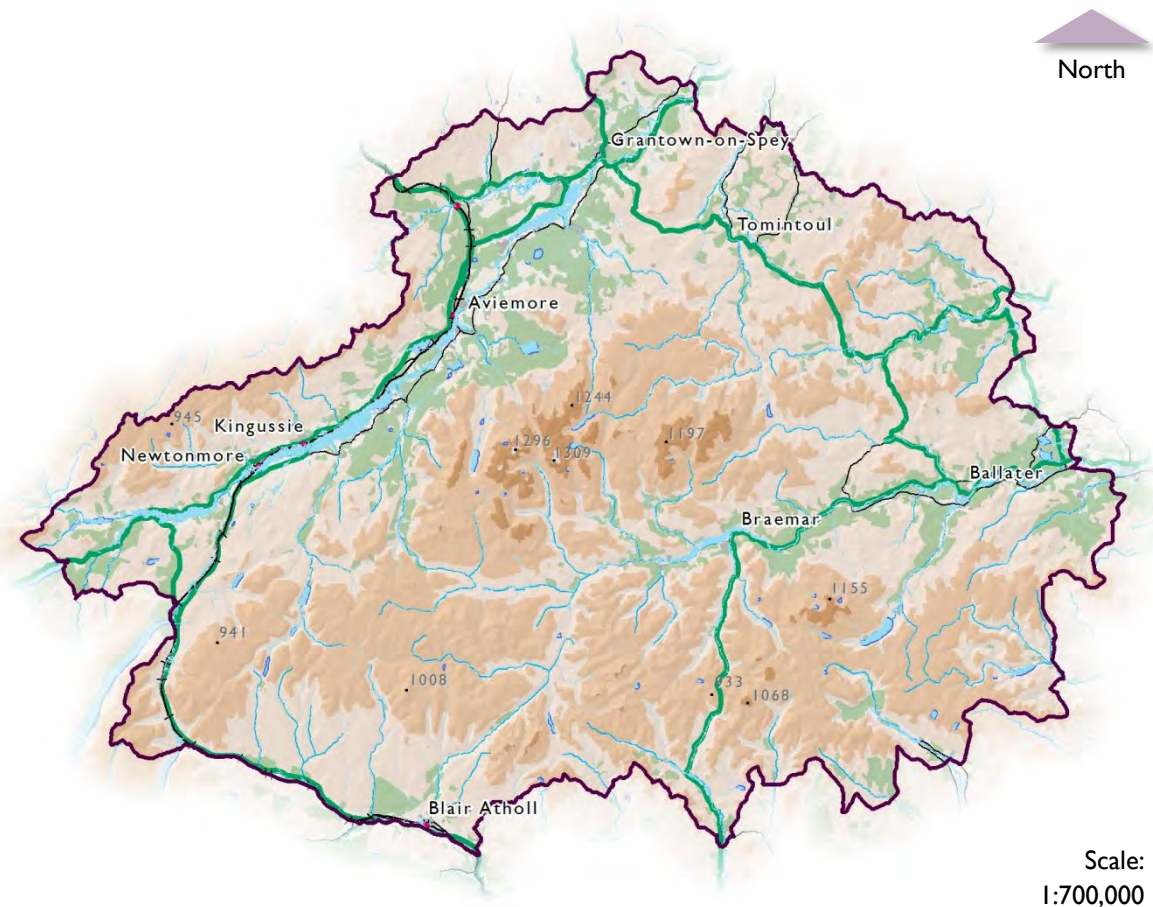


Figure 27 Indicative river flooding extent (medium probability 1 in 200 years) in Cairngorms National Park.

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River Spey

The River Spey (**Figure 28**) rises in the high ground of the Monadhliath and Cairngorm Mountain ranges and flows in a northeasterly direction through narrow straths and scenic river valleys before discharging into the Moray Firth beyond the fertile farmlands of Morayshire. The upper part of the catchment is characterised by its mountainous areas, the highest point being the summit of Ben Macdui at 1,309 metres above sea level.

The River Spey is the seventh largest river in Britain, with a catchment area of over 3,000 km², and a stream network length of about 36,500 km, of which the main river comprises 157 km (Spey Catchment Steering Group, 2003).

There is a long history of flooding within the Spey catchment area, with a notable event, known as the Great Muckle Spate, destroying several bridges in 1829. The River Spey and its tributaries continue to flood regularly, with heavy rains and melting snows increasing the volumes of water in

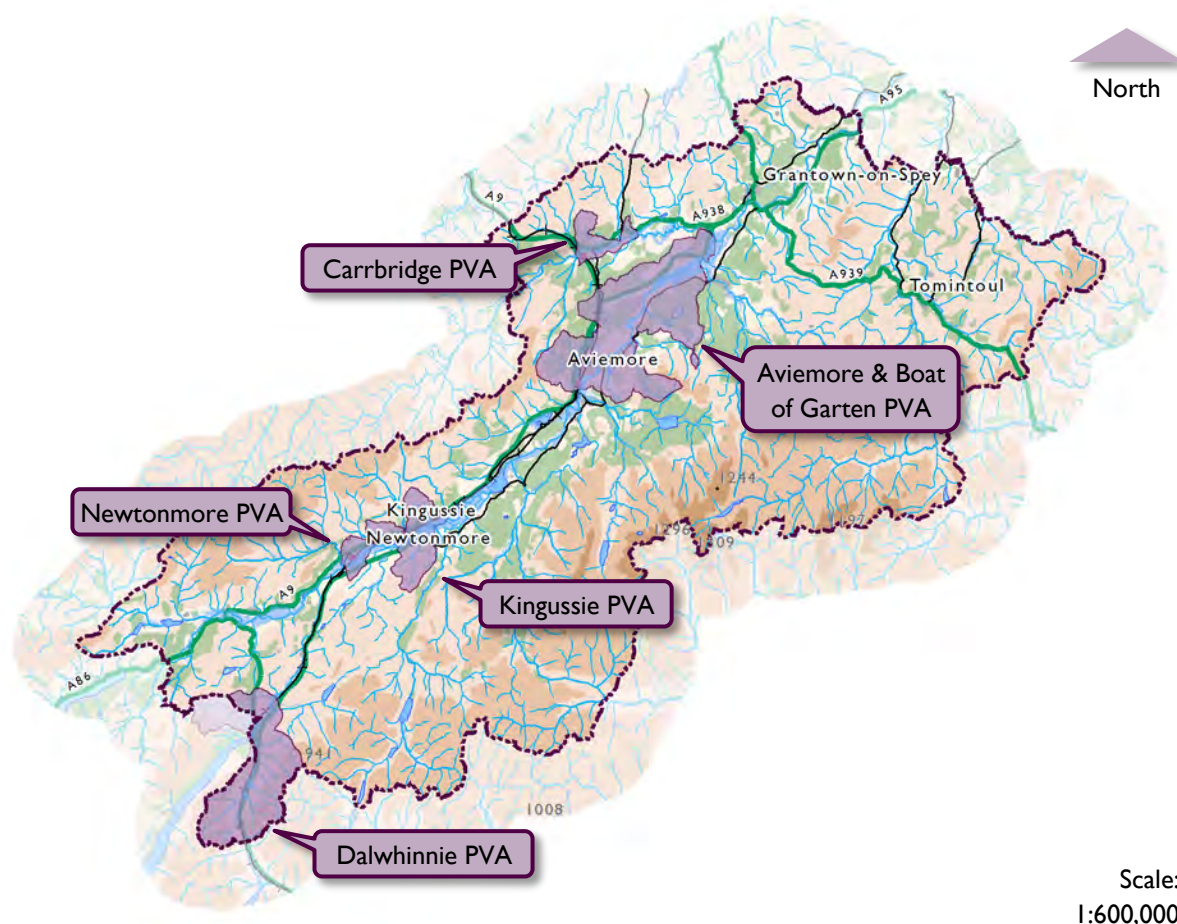


Figure 28 River Spey PVAs in the River Spey catchment area within the Cairngorms National Park and indicative river flooding extent (medium probability 1 in 200 years).

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the catchment. These floods have damaged properties in Newtonmore, Aviemore and Carrbridge on a number of occasions. Most recently in 2014, Gynack Burn broke its banks in Kingussie, damaging local buildings and infrastructure (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

Flood management practices are being undertaken at a number of locations. The Spey Catchment Initiative has carried out natural flood management / river restoration works on a tributary upstream of the River Dulnain (Spey Catchment Initiative, 2013). There are also agricultural embankments along the River Spey between Aviemore and Boat of Garten and further embankments at Dalwhinnie. The standard of protection (and condition) provided by these embankments is however unknown (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

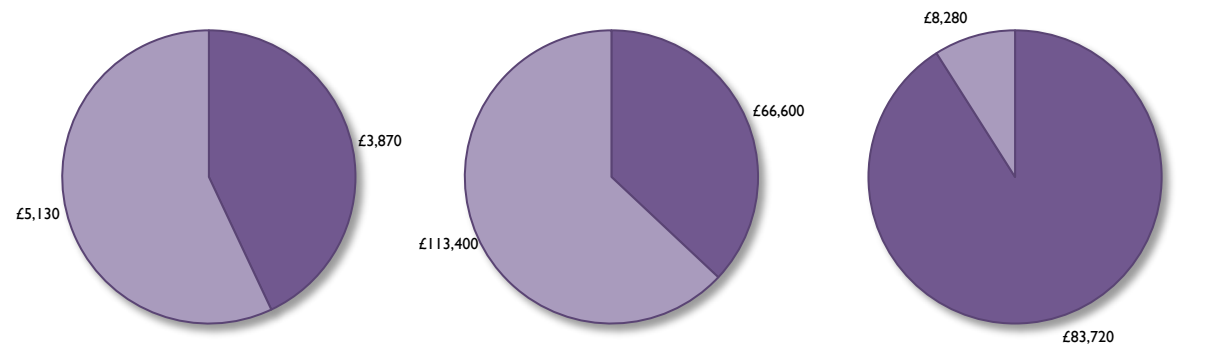


Figure 29 Annual average damages in Carrbridge PVA (PVA 05/10). Figure 30 Annual average damages in Aviemore and Boat of Garten PVA (PVA 05/11). Figure 31 Annual average damages in Kingussie PVA (PVA 05/12).

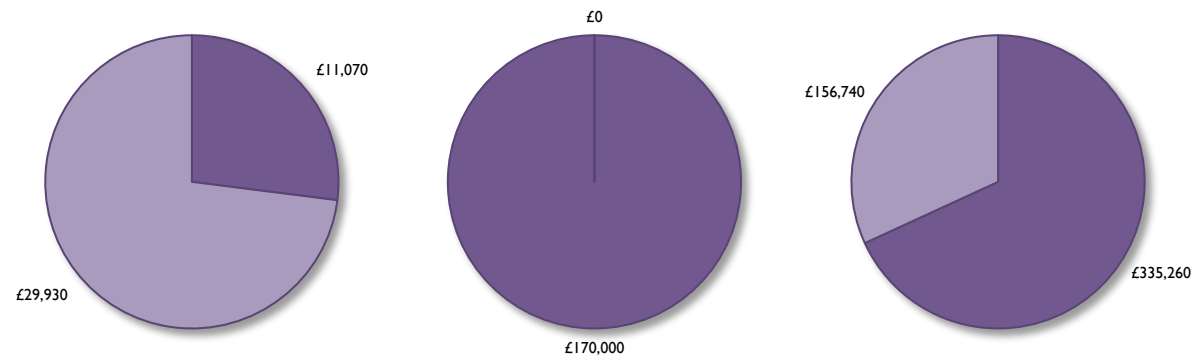


Figure 32 Annual average damages in Newtonmore PVA (PVA 05/13). Figure 33 Annual average damages in Dalwhinnie PVA (PVA 05/14). Figure 34 Annual average damages of all National Park PVAs in Spey Catchment area.

■ River flooding ■ Surface water flooding

(Source: Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

Due to the potential risk caused by flooding within the catchment area, five Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) have been identified within the National Park (**Figure 28**), at:

- Carrbridge (PVA 05/10);
- Aviemore and Boat of Garten (PVA 05/11);
- Kingussie (PVA 05/12);
- Newtonmore (PVA 05/13); and
- Dalwhinnie (PVA 05/14).

The estimated total average annual cost of damage in these areas is £492,000 (**Figures 31 to 36**). Around £335,000 (68%) of this damage is caused by river flooding (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

SEPA have identified a number of actions for managing flood risk in these areas, which were consulted on in 2015.

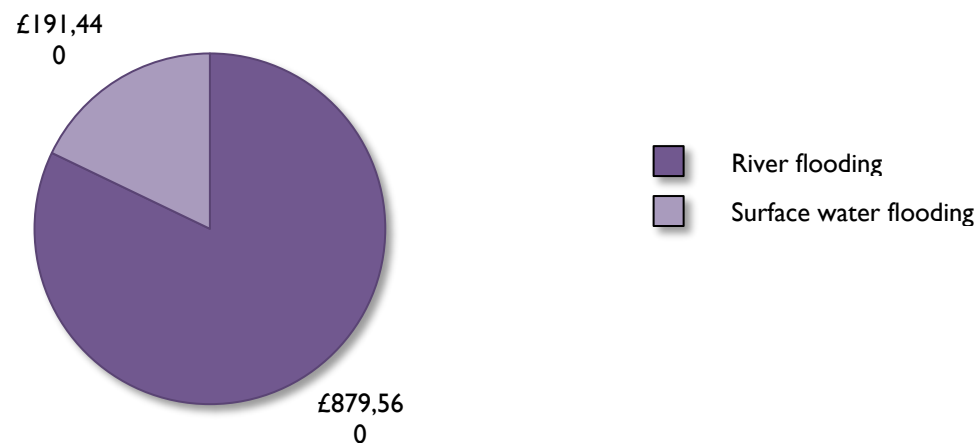


Figure 35 Annual average damages of all PVAs within or overlapping the Cairngorms National Park (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

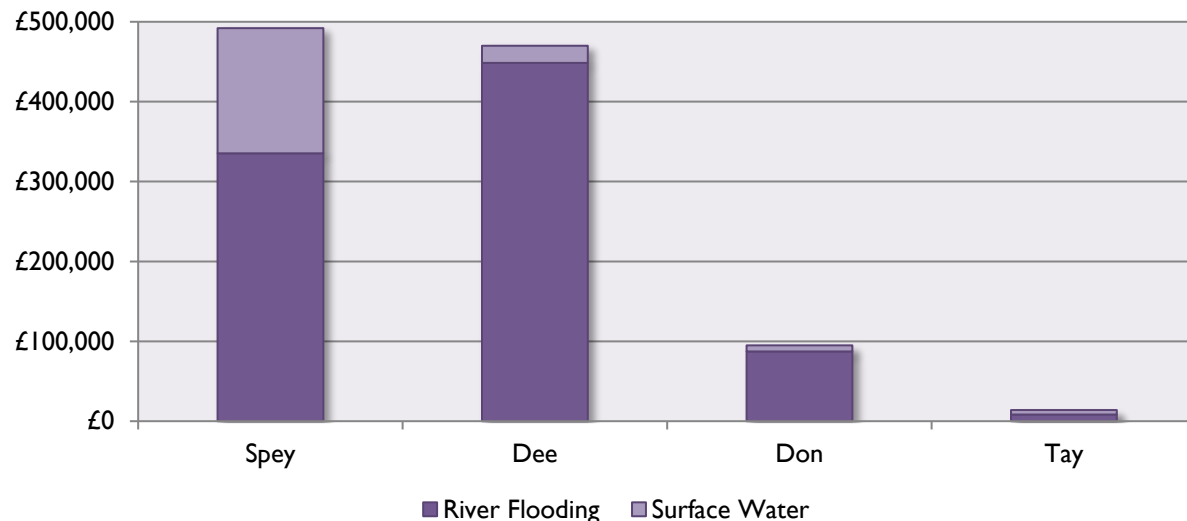


Figure 36 Annual average damages of all PVAs within or overlapping the Cairngorms National Park by catchment area (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

River Dee

The River Dee (**Figure 37**) rises in the Cairngorm Mountains east of Braemar on the semi-arctic Braeriach-Cairn Toul plateau. For the majority of its course, the river flows eastwards through a broadening valley, which becomes much gentler in relief as it leaves the National Park. Within the National Park, the river is fed by a number of important tributaries, namely the Lui, Clunie, Gairn, Muick and Tanar, the latter's confluence located just outwith the National Park Boundary (Dee Catchment Partnership, 2007).

The river is considered to be the best example of a natural highland river in Scotland (Maitland, 1985). The notable characteristics of the river include its great altitudinal range, its unique succession of plant communities, and its seep profile compared to other large British rivers (Dee Catchment Partnership, 2007).

Like the Spey, the Dee suffers from flooding related to heavy rain and melting snows. Major floods have been recorded in 1769,

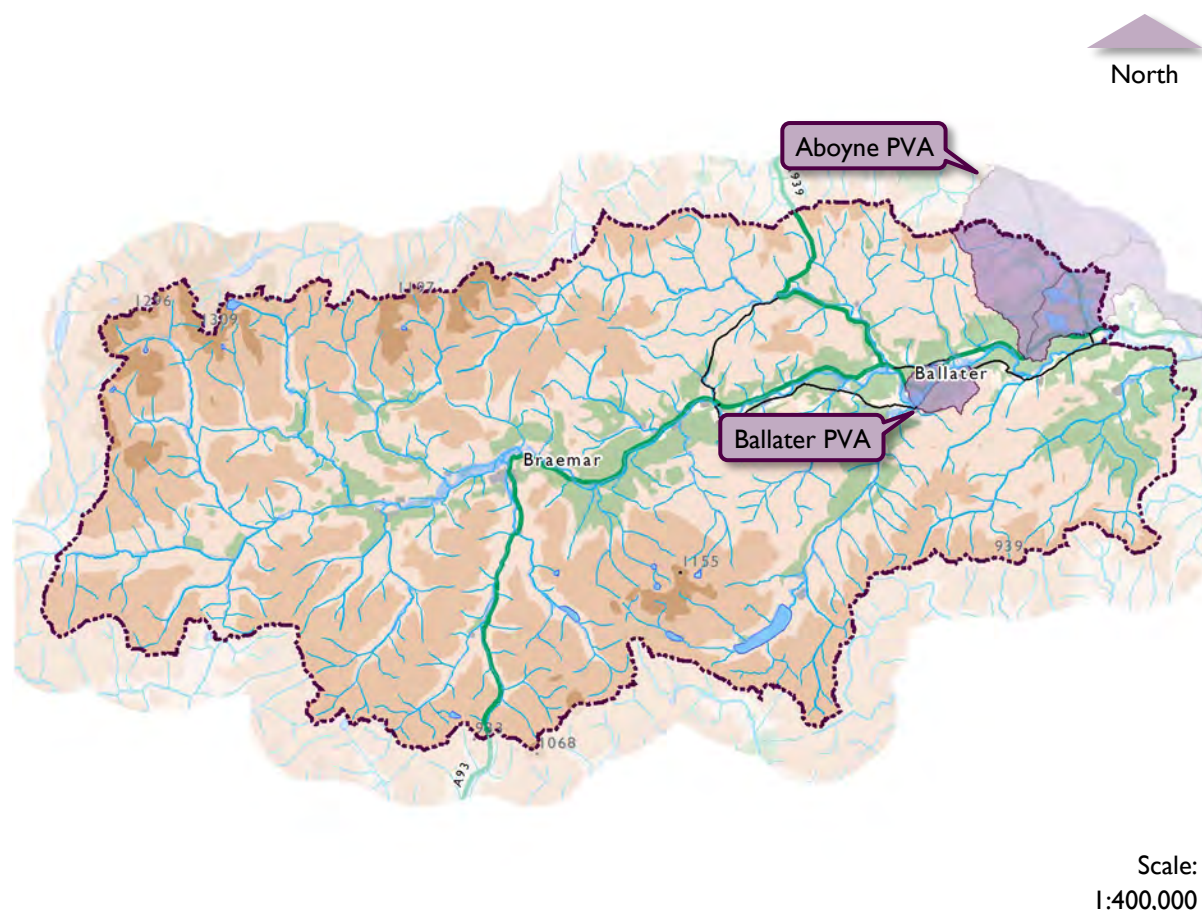


Figure 37 River Dee PVAs in the River Dee catchment area within the Cairngorms National Park and indicative river flooding extent (medium probability 1 in 200 years).

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1829 (the Great Muckle Spate), 1920 and 1956 (the Cairngorm Flood) (Dee Catchment Partnership, 2007). In 2008 surface run-off entered the Netherly Guesthouse in Ballater and in 2014 the town's caravan park and a number of roads were closed due to flooding (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015). More recently, in December 2015 / January 2016, the Dee experienced widespread flooding, which caused significant damage to property and transport infrastructure.

The Dee catchment contains two PVAs that fall within or across the National Park boundary **Figures 40 to 42**), namely:

- Aboyne (PVA 06/20); and
- Ballater (PVA 06/22).

The former is only partly within the boundary, with the majority of the population and the associated risk located outwith. As one of the National Park's main settlements, the PVA around Ballater therefore offers most concern. The estimated average annual cost of damage here is £230,000, 99% of which is

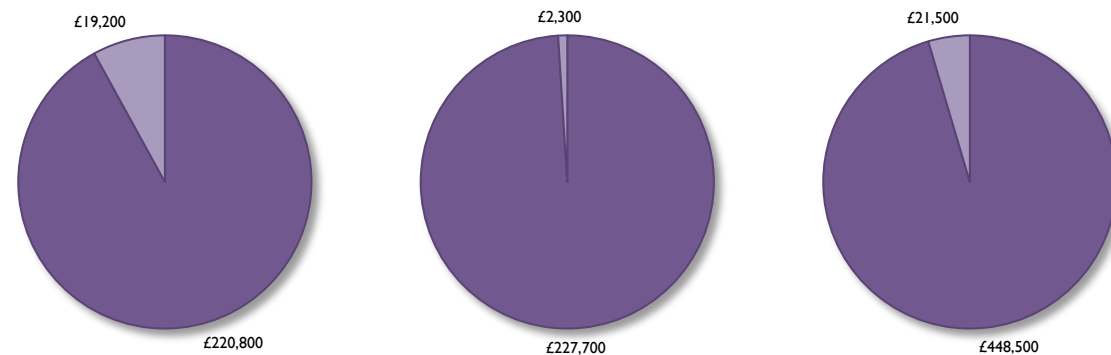


Figure 38 Annual average damages in Aboyne PVA (PVA 06/20).

Figure 39 Annual average damages in Ballater PVA (PVA 06/22).

Figure 40 Annual average damages of all National Park PVAs in Dee Catchment area.

■ River flooding ■ Surface water flooding

(Source: Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

associated with river flooding. The majority of estimated damages are due to flooding to non-residential properties (80%), although more significantly, the fire station is located in an area which has a medium likelihood of flooding (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

River Don

Rising in the in the peat flat beneath Druim na Feithe, and in the shadow of Glen Avon, the River Don flows 135km east to the sea in Aberdeen. It's Scotland's 6th largest river, draining a catchment of around 1,300km².

The Don catchment contains one PVA that falls across the National Park boundary, namely Heugh-Head (PVA 06/14) (**Figure 42**). There was a surface water flood in August 2006 affecting Strathdon, Waterside and Bellabeg when water ponded in low points of the road, with heavy rainfall and steep sloping fields to the south resulting in significant amounts of flood water. Most of the PVA's estimated annual average damages, which equate to £95,000, are associated with river flooding (92%) (**Figure 43**). These damages mostly affect residential properties (60%) (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2015).

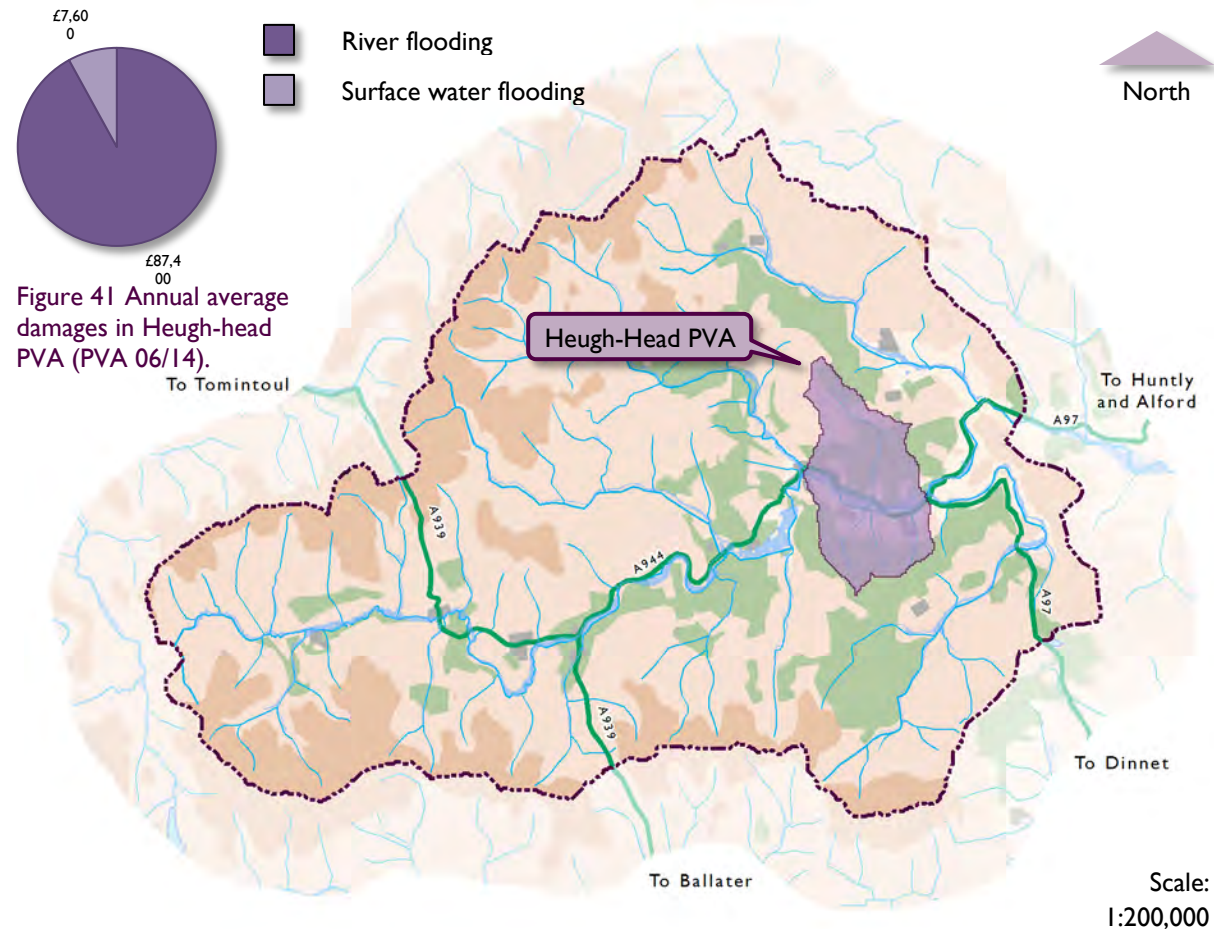


Figure 42 Heugh-Head PVA (PVA 06/14) and indicative river flooding extent (medium probability 1 in 200 years) in the River Don catchment area within the Cairngorms National Park.

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The River Tay has the largest catchment area and is the longest river in Scotland, with many of its headwaters lying within the Cairngorms National Park (**Figure 44**). It covers an area of 5,088km² and is around 190km in length. More water flows through the River Tay than any other river in the United Kingdom. The main tributaries include the River Garry, River Tummel, River Lyon, River Braan, River Isla and River Almond. The largest lochs in the River Tay catchment include Loch Ericht, Loch Rannoch and Loch Tay (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, 2015).

The Tay catchment contains one PVA that falls across the National Park boundary, namely Blair Atholl (PVA 08/01). A number of river floods have been recorded in this area. These include:

- 13 June 1931: Evacuation was required as River Garry flooded near Blair Atholl, the railway was also affected.
- July 1916: Evacuation was required as River Garry flooded near Blair Atholl, the railway was also flooded.

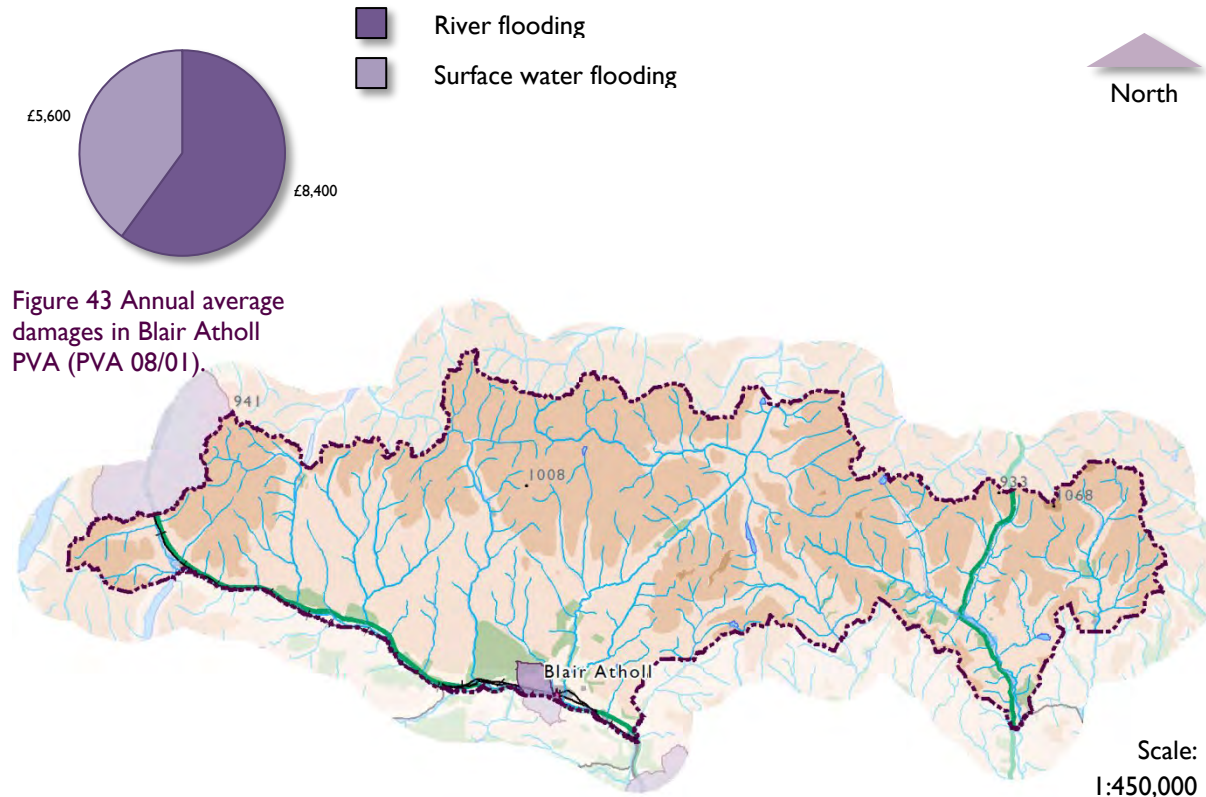


Figure 44 River Tay PVAs in the River Tay catchment area within the Cairngorms National Park and indicative river flooding extent (medium probability 1 in 200 years).

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Blair Atholl continues to be at risk of flooding from the Garry Burn and from surface water. The risk of flooding to people, property, as well as to community facilities, utilities, the transport network, designated sites and agricultural land is presented in **Figure 45**.

Currently there is relatively low confidence in SEPA's river flood hazard maps due to limitations arising from the data used and techniques applied in the national modelling. The number of properties at risk of flooding in the Blair Atholl area is likely to be underestimated (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, 2015).

Key Messages

Water quality within the National Park is relatively high, however, monitoring indicates that recent years have seen an increase in the proportion of water bodies falling out of the high classification for overall status and water quality. The situation was particularly poor in 2013, which saw a large increase in the number of waterbodies falling into lower classifications.

AMAX data from the Spey and Dee indicates a general trend for higher annual maximum instantaneous peak flows over the time they were monitored, indicating an increase in floodrisk in these catchments.

There is not enough capacity in the water and sewage treatment works that serve the National Park to meet the projected level of housing growth for the Plan period.

There are nine Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) within the National Park. The estimated total average annual cost of damage in these areas is £1,071,000.

Inter-relationships with other topics

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Topic 4: Soil

“Soil is a resource of common interest... and failure to protect it will undermine sustainability and long term competitiveness in Europe.”

Commission of the European Communities (2006).

Soils cover most of the natural world, forming the foundation of all terrestrial ecosystems and services. They support key processes in biomass production and mass exchange with atmospheric and hydrological systems. Nearly all of the food, fuel and fibres used by humans are produced in soil. Soil is also essential for water and ecosystem health. It is second only to the oceans as a carbon sink, with an important role in the potential slowing of carbon change. Soil functions depend on a multitude of soil organisms, which makes soil an important part of our biodiversity (Joint Research Centre, 2012).

Although soils are a continually evolving, living and dynamic medium responding to external pressures and management, some

activities such as development or pollution can mean their recovery or reformation cannot take place within human timescales. This means soils are a finite and essentially non-renewable resource (Scottish Government, 2009).

Land Capability for Agriculture

Although it is estimated that Agriculture contributed about £688 million to the Scottish economy in 2014 (Scottish Government, 2015), it is difficult to value the direct financial contribution that healthy soils make to our economy. But it is now widely acknowledged that the sustainable management of soils, and the protection of soils' ability to deliver a wide range of environmental and ecological services, is essential to achieving sustainable economic growth.

Land Capability Classification for Agriculture mapping provides detailed information on soil, climate and relief for those involved in the management of land use and resources. The classification ranks

land from 1 to 7 on the basis of its potential productivity and cropping flexibility determined by the extent to which its physical characteristics (soil, climate and relief) impose long term restrictions on its agricultural use. Land classified from 1 to 3.1 is considered to be prime agricultural land, while land classified as 3.2 to 7 is considered to be non-prime (Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981).

There are no areas of prime agricultural land within the Cairngorms National Park, although there are areas of land in Strath Spey and Deeside within the 3.2 classification (around 1.2% of the National Park's total area), which denotes non-prime land that is limited by moderate climatic factors and may yield a moderate range of crops, with average production, but potentially high yields of barley, oats and grass. Most land within the National Park is classified as 6 or 7 (around 73%), which denote areas of 'rough grazing only' and 'very limited agricultural value' respectively.

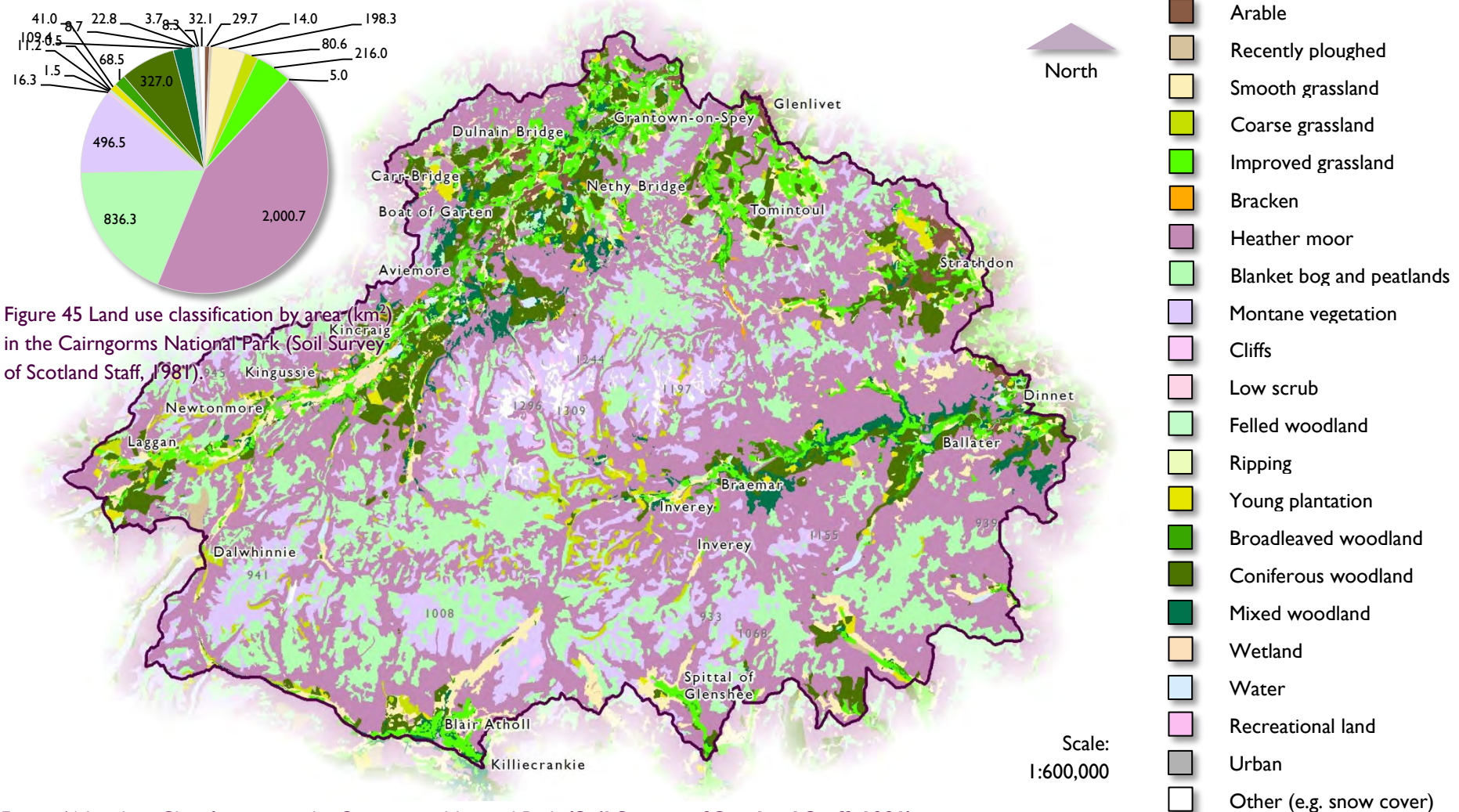


Figure 46 Landuse Classifications in the Cairngorms National Park (Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981).

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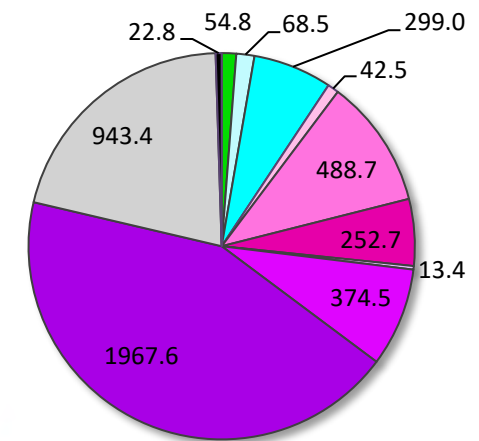
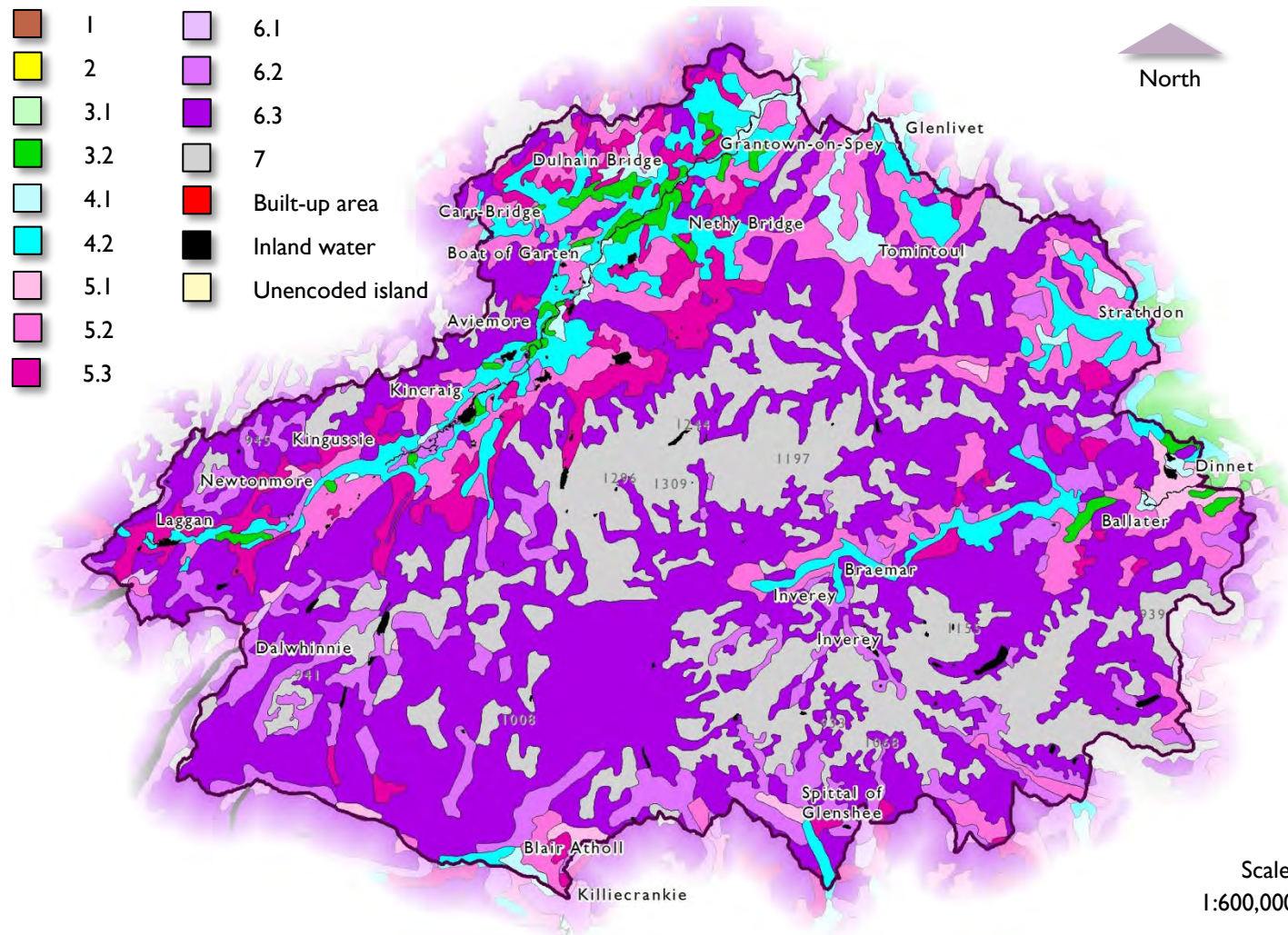


Figure 47 Agricultural land classification by area (km²) in the Cairngorms National Park (Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981).

Figure 48 Agricultural land classification in the Cairngorms National Park (Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981).

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Organic Matter

Soil organic matter is a universal constituent of soils and plays a vital role in contributing to a range of soil functions. Organic carbon is the dominant component of soil organic matter (around 50%), so management of soil has important wider consequences in the context of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. Soil organic matter also contains a wide range of nutrients (e.g. nitrogen, phosphorus) and trace elements that are essential for plant growth and health. The presence of soil organic matter is a critical indicator of soil quality and is required to deliver many of the vital functions of soil including its ability to provide nutrients, ameliorate the inputs of wastes and pollutants, contribute to the formation of good physical conditions, improve water storage and provide a habitat for microbial populations (Rees *et al.* 2011).

The soils of the Cairngorms National Park are particularly rich in soil organic matter because the cool, moist climate encourages the retention of decomposed organic

materials, with peatlands containing the largest quantities of soil organic matter (**Figure 51**, **Figure 50** and **Figure 51**). These soils are important global reserves of soil carbon.

The organic matter content of soils is at risk from a range of pressures, with land use change and climate change being of particular importance. The pressures affect the incorporation, cycling and breakdown of organic matter in the soil through alteration of soil conditions populations (Rees *et al.* 2011). The major pathway of loss of organic matter from soils is by carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission to the atmosphere via soil respiration, but other greenhouse gases can also be emitted as a result of soil organic matter decomposition, for example methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) (Scottish Executive, 2007). In addition, carbon compounds can be released from soil into water, for example dissolved organic carbon and particulate organic carbon (Buckingham *et al.* 2008; Dinsmore *et al.* 2010). Other processes can also influence the amount of organic matter

loss, such as soil erosion (Bilotta *et al.* 2007). Although most CO₂ is returned to soils as a consequence of the photosynthetic activity of plants, the net exchange (the difference between gains and losses) of carbon from land surfaces may still be large (Rees *et al.* 2011).

Climate is important in determining the equilibrium soil organic matter content. Temperature and rainfall influence both the input of organic matter via photosynthesis (e.g. litter and root inputs), and its subsequent decomposition through microbial activity, with resultant release of greenhouse gases and dissolved organic carbon, along with nutrients and trace elements. Thus any change in climate, for example increased rainfall and/ or increased temperature, is likely to change the rate at which organic matter is lost or accumulated in Scottish soils (Rees *et al.* 2011).

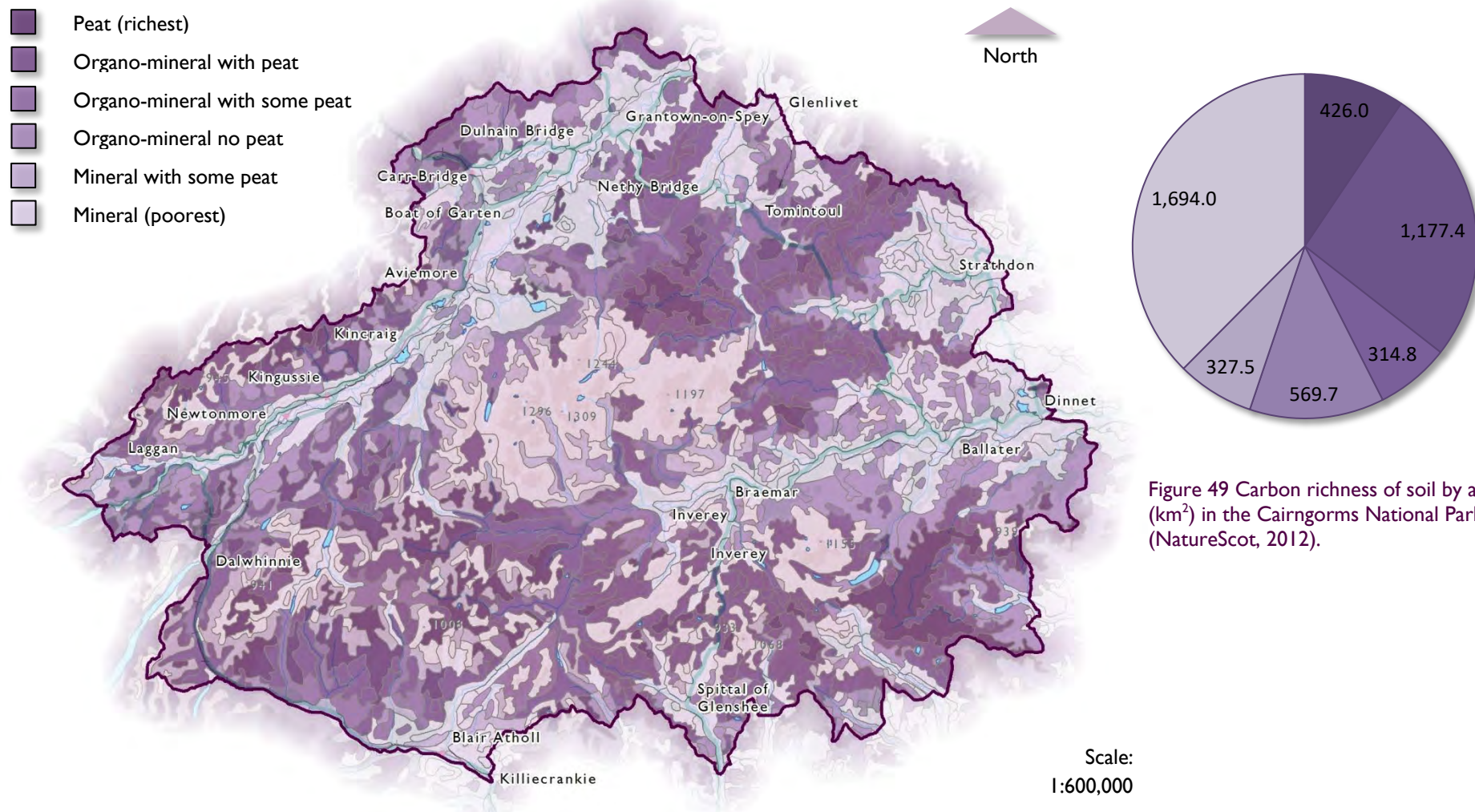


Figure 50 Carbon Richness of Soil (NatureScot, 2012).

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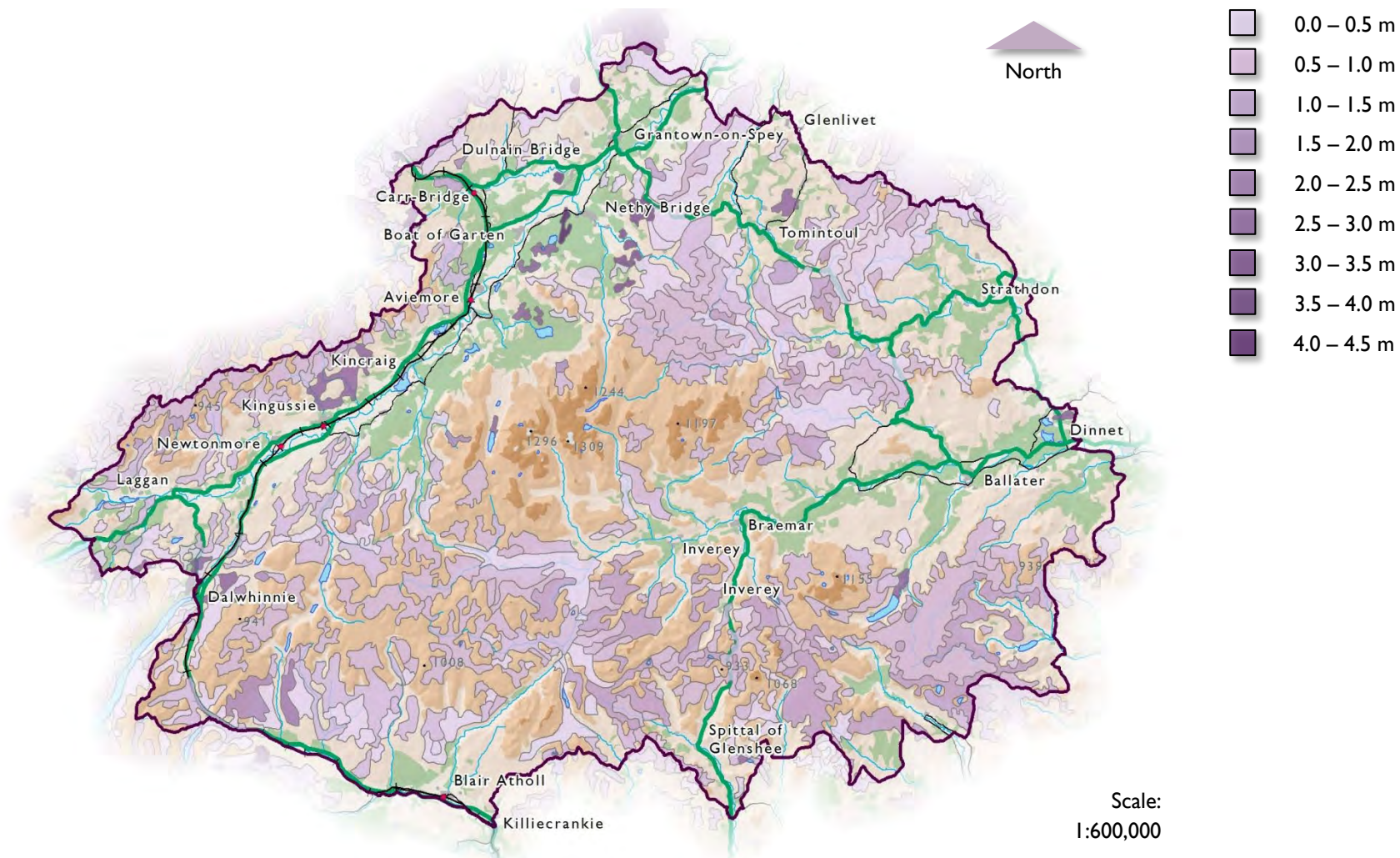


Figure 51 Depth of peat in the Cairngorms National Park (**Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981**).

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There is a particular concern regarding the sensitivity of soil organic matter to changes in climate. Projected climate change in the Cairngorms National Park, with warmer and drier summers and wetter winters, threatens to increase losses of soil organic matter (see **Topic I: Climatic Factors**, p. 131). Another concern is that extreme weather events such as heavy rainfall could contribute to significant losses of organic matter through soil erosion (Rees *et al.* 2011).

Issues caused by climate change may be compounded by unsustainable land use activities such as those related to agriculture, forestry practices, recreation / game management, peat exploitation and development. Many of the Cairngorms National Park's most organic rich soils are located on its moorlands, large areas of which are managed for game. Deer can cause compaction and erosion and it is necessary to maintain the deer population at a sustainable level. Grouse shooting requires management of the moorland habitat such that a good balance of young

heather is available for forage. This is normally done by burning (muirburn), typically in patches which are burnt every 10–20 years. Carefully managed heather moorland should aim to retain soil organic matter and the soil carbon balance over time but poorly managed burning can result in losses. There is evidence of soil organic matter loss following burning though the evidence base is scant (Rees *et al.* 2011).

The consequences of organic soil loss are potentially serious since it provides a number of important ecosystem services, such as:

- Providing the basis for food and biomass production
- Controlling and regulating environmental interactions
- Storing carbon and maintaining the balance of gases in the air
- Providing valued habitats and sustaining biodiversity
- Preserving cultural and archaeological heritage; and
- Providing raw materials.

Contamination

Soil contamination can come in many forms and from many sources. However, not all are of concern within the Cairngorms National Park. While contamination from metals, organic chemicals, radioactive substances and pathogens may exist within National Park boundary, they are not of an order that is likely to cause significant harm to the environment and can therefore be scoped out of the assessment.

Because of its potential effects on habitat and biodiversity, soil acidification is however of significance to the National Park. Typically, this pollution originates from gaseous emissions of sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, which are dissolved in rainwater to form sulphuric and nitric acids which subsequently are deposited on soil, causing soil acidification. Excess nitrogen deposition can also lead to soil eutrophication.

Acidification and eutrophication impacts are often greatest in upland areas as a result of high rainfall and are exacerbated by

predominantly poorly-buffered and nutrient-poor soils and the greater sensitivity of locally adapted biodiversity to a change in soil conditions. However, lowland soils, especially those associated with ecosystems of high conservation value, may also be affected by acidification and eutrophication. In addition, fertiliser application in excess of crop nutrient requirements can result in acidification and eutrophication of agricultural and forestry soils (Cundill *et al.* 2011).

Acidification can impact on soil nutrient cycling, causing critical load exceedance and a reduction in the ability of soils to filter contaminants. Further nitrogen additions are also less readily retained in ecosystems where the critical load for nitrogen is exceeded, resulting in 'nitrogen' saturation' (Aber *et al.* 1989; Agren & Bosatta, 1988).

Contaminates may therefore more readily enter water bodies, the acidification of which has been linked with soil acidification in Scotland (Helliwell *et al.* 2001). The impacts of soil acidification on both the biological and chemical quality of water has

been observed in the Cairngorms (Soulsby *et al.* 1997). See **Topic 3: Water** (p. 145) for further details.

Soil Erosion

Soil erosion by water or wind is a natural process where soil particles become detached and are transported within the landscape. Features of soil erosion may be found throughout the Cairngorms National Park (**Figure 52**). For example, landslides and debris flows are a relatively common occurrence on many of the National Park's hill slopes, which have been over-steepened by glaciation (Ballantyne, 1986, 2004). The rate of soil loss via erosion and the incidence of landslides can be increased by removing the vegetation cover that protects the soil (e.g. ploughing to grow crops, deforestation) or by engineering works. Tillage erosion also leads to the redistribution of soil downslope (Lilly *et al.* 2011).

The erosion of upland organic (peat) soils is also prevalent in some parts of the National Park, and in particular the Monadhliath

Mountains, the southern part of which fall within its boundary. The mechanisms that lead to erosion in these soils are not fully understood although historic overgrazing by sheep and deer may be a contributory factor. There is also evidence that changes in climate over many years may be partly responsible for the development of gully systems in these areas (Lilly *et al.* 2009).

Landslides (in the form of debris flows) have occurred in clusters over the last 7,000 years which may be related to climatic factors such as the frequency of extreme rainfall events, for example, although deforestation is also likely to be an important factor. Debris flows in the Lairig Ghru appear to occur with a return period of around 20 years, with each episode of debris flow activity thought to be linked to intense rain storms (Baird & Lewis, 1957; Innes, 1982; Luckman, 1992). Landslide and debris flow activity is reported to have increased over the last 200–500 years (Innes, 1985; Ballantyne, 2004) and it is thought that localised extreme rainfall was the major contributing factor to the

Scottish landslides in 2004 (Winter *et al.* 2005). Triggering of peat slides is also commonly attributed to intense rainfall events (Dykes & Warburton, 2008).

Climate change (see **Topic 1: Climatic Factors**, p. 131) is therefore likely to lead to an increase in the frequency of landslides and in the intensity of soil erosion (Ballantyne, 2004; Winter *et al.* 2005).

One of the most important factors in the protection of soils from erosion is vegetation cover, as roots bind soil particles together and plants protect soil from direct raindrop impact, as well as disrupting overland flow. Where vegetation cover is sparse, or soils are bare, the incidence of landslides and soil erosion (by wind and water) is greater.

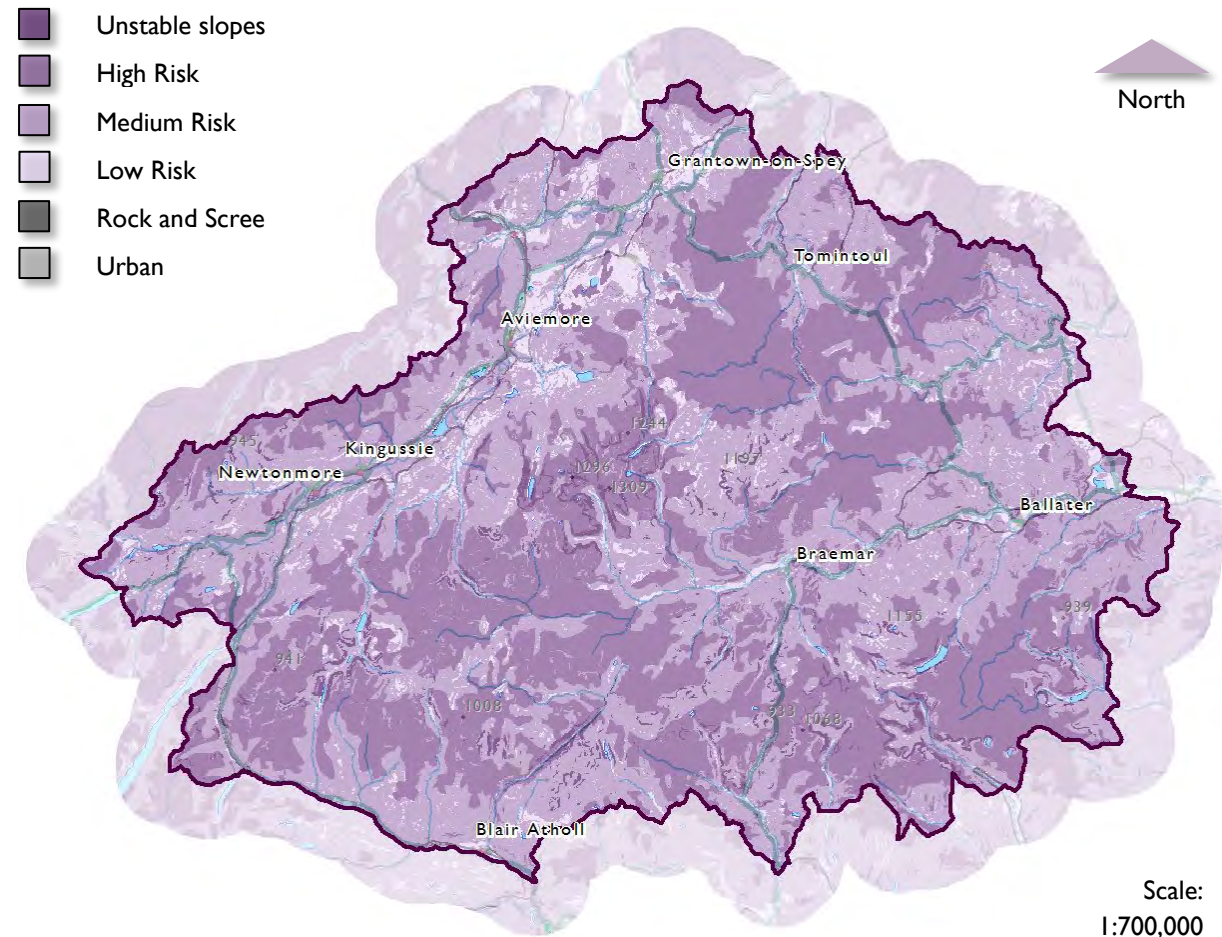


Figure 52 Soil erosion risk within Cairngorms National Park.

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In some upland areas of the Cairngorms National Park, heavy grazing by sheep and deer has caused a decline in heather cover which has then been replaced by tussock forming grasses with poorer soil binding abilities. However, one difficulty in establishing links between soil erosion (in particular, the erosion of peat) and grazing is that historic stocking densities, which are generally unknown, may have had more influence on the risk of erosion than current stocking densities. Also, both sheep and deer will preferentially graze specific areas, resulting in localised areas experiencing greater grazing pressures and an increased risk of erosion (Lilly *et al.* 2011).

In the Cairngorms National Park, estates and upland farms have commonly used burning as a means of controlling vegetation structure and improved heathland productivity. This can cause issues when too much vegetation is removed. Severe burning may even make the surface organic layer of the soil water resistant, resulting in greater run-off and greater potential for soil erosion and landslides (Lilly *et al.* 2011).

With an area around 600 km² of forest cover, soil erosion originating from forestry activities is also a consideration for the National Park. While in most instances, tree cover has a positive effect on soil erosion, providing vegetation cover and binding soils,

certain activities may cause issues. For example, the bed of new drainage ditches can be scoured and run-off during harvesting can remove the loosened soil (Lilly *et al.* 2011).

Due to the National Park's popularity as a visitor and tourist destination, the effects of recreation must also be given consideration. Hill walking and mountain biking on some hill and upland areas can cause erosion and lead to the extension of paths across sensitive environments where natural regeneration of the vegetation is slow. These areas then become vulnerable to continued erosion (Lilly *et al.* 2011).

Key Messages

The Cairngorms National Park does not contain any mapped areas of Prime Agricultural Land; it does however have large areas of Carbon Rich soils, which perform important ecosystem services, particularly as a carbon sink. Soil erosion, both natural and through inappropriate land management techniques place many of these soils at risk.

There is little evidence of soil contamination within the National Park, however inappropriate agricultural practices may lead to instances, which in turn may have a negative effect on water quality.

The LDP may have an effect on soil quality, particularly through its influence on the level and distribution of development within the National Park.

Inter-relationships with other topics

➤ Topic 1: Climatic Factors	131
➤ Topic 3: Water	145
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➤ Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	193
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Topic 5: Material Assets

In SEA terms Material Assets may cover a range of apparently disparate environmental concerns, including natural resources, geodiversity, waste, infrastructure and property. Many can be scoped out of the SEA for the National Park, while others may be dealt with under other topics. For example, soil and water are covered by their own topics. The issues covered within this section therefore, are:

- Geoconservation;
- Energy;
- Waste;
- Transport infrastructure; and
- Broadband infrastructure.

Geoconservation

“...geological heritage constitutes a natural heritage of scientific, cultural, aesthetic, landscape, economic and intrinsic values, which needs to be preserved and handed down to future generations.”

Council of Europe (2004).

Geoconservation involves recognising, protecting and managing sites and landscapes identified as important for their rocks, fossils, minerals, or other geological or geomorphological features of interest. Some of the concepts of geoconservation are still being developed; however, in some areas a good deal has been achieved, particularly in the creation of the UK Geodiversity Action Plan (UK GAP) and Scotland's Geodiversity Charter.

There are many definitions of 'geodiversity', but the majority are variations on similar wording (see Gray, 2008, 2013; Sharples, 1993). Broadly, it may be defined as:

“The variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, landforms, sediments and soils, together with the natural processes which form and alter them” (Bruneau et al. 2011, p. 3).

As well as being of scientific and cultural importance, geodiversity makes an immense contribution to Scotland's economy, as a source of energy and materials, and as a visitor attraction through its contribution

to our unique landscape. Crucially, geodiversity underpins biodiversity through providing mosaics of landforms, soils, water, nutrients and natural processes to support our nationally and internationally important habitats, species and ecosystems (Scottish Geodiversity Forum, 2013; Bruneau et al. 2011; Gordon et al. 1998, 2001; Haynes, et al. 1998; Jonasson et al. 2005).

Protecting Geodiversity

There are a range of designations that help to safeguard geodiversity within the Cairngorms National Park, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Geological Conservation Review (GCR) Sites. Indeed, geodiversity is part of the special qualities of the National Park.

The landscapes of the Cairngorms National Park have a remarkable history stretching back to some 700 million years. The processes that have led to these old landscapes can be traced today in the rocks, landforms and soils beneath our feet and in the shapes of the straths and mountains around us (Gordon *et al.* 2006; Thomas *et al.* 2004). These landscapes incorporate a wealth of information about past environmental change and in particular, the Cairngorm Mountains are considered to be one of the finest examples in the world of glaciated granite mountains, notable for their distinctive plateau surfaces, tors and glacially sculptured features. These mountains therefore represent a precious scientific, educational, environmental and Earth heritage asset (Kirkbride *et al.* 2010).

There are 16 Geological and Mixed SSSI within the National Park, covering an area of some 680 km² (around 15% of the Park's area) (see **Figure 81**, p. 208).

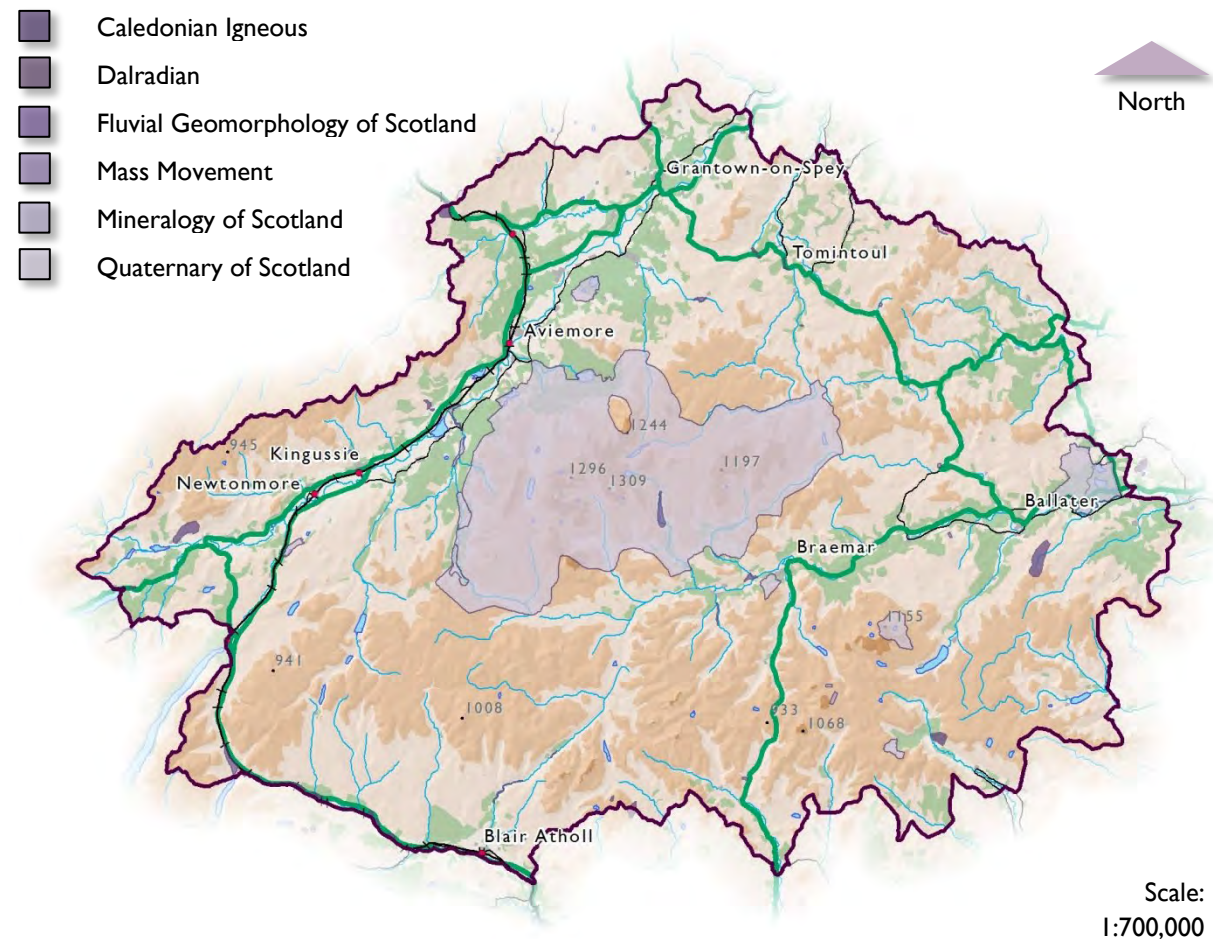


Figure 53 Geological Conservation Review Sites within the Cairngorms National Park by GCR Block Description.

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Further protection is given to certain areas, which includes areas both within and outwith SSSIs, by the 39 GCR sites within or overlapping the National Park boundary (**Figure 53** and **Figure 54**). Combined they cover an area of around 592 km², the vast majority of which lies wholly within the National Park itself. In fact, the vast majority of this area (around 526 km²) is attributed to a single GCR site, the Cairngorms Mountains (site 2284), which is listed for its exceptional assemblage of pre-glacial, glacial, glaciofluvial and periglacial features.

Although British Geological Society (BGS) mapping is available for the whole National Park, detailed geomorphological information is more limited. However, NatureScot along with the BGS have compiled a spatial inventory of the geomorphology of the Cairngorm Mountains core area (Kirkbride & Gordon, 2010) (**Figure 55**).

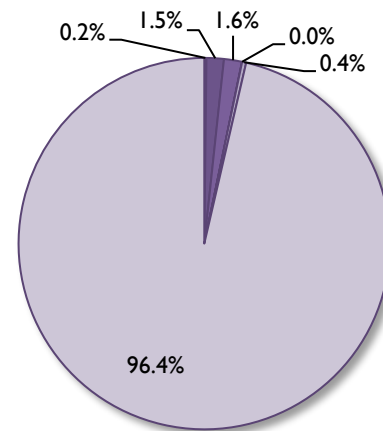


Figure 54 Area covered by GCR Site block description (legend on p. 1743).

The inventory identifies the location and extent of the main landform assemblages: landforms of glacial erosion; landforms of glacial and glaciofluvial deposition; relict periglacial landforms; and postglacial and contemporary landforms and processes. The spatial data is complemented by descriptions of the landforms and additional information on larger landscape features, the survival of relict non-glacial features and details of Lateglacial and Holocene palaeoenvironmental records. Together, they provide a basic source of information

for the development of conservation management and interpretation of the Cairngorm Mountains.

The inventory highlights that understanding the links between geodiversity and biodiversity is particularly crucial for conservation management in dynamic environments such as the Cairngorm Mountains, where natural processes (e.g. floods, sediment transport and flow regimes) maintain habitat diversity and ecological functions. It also highlights that consideration of geomorphological sensitivity is a vital part of working in sympathy with natural processes, in assessing natural hazards and implementing sustainable management of ecosystems, particularly under future climate change scenarios.

The inventory recommends that geomorphology is integrated in current monitoring programmes in the Cairngorm Mountains and that much more could be done to raise wider awareness of geodiversity interests within the overall framework for interpretation within the

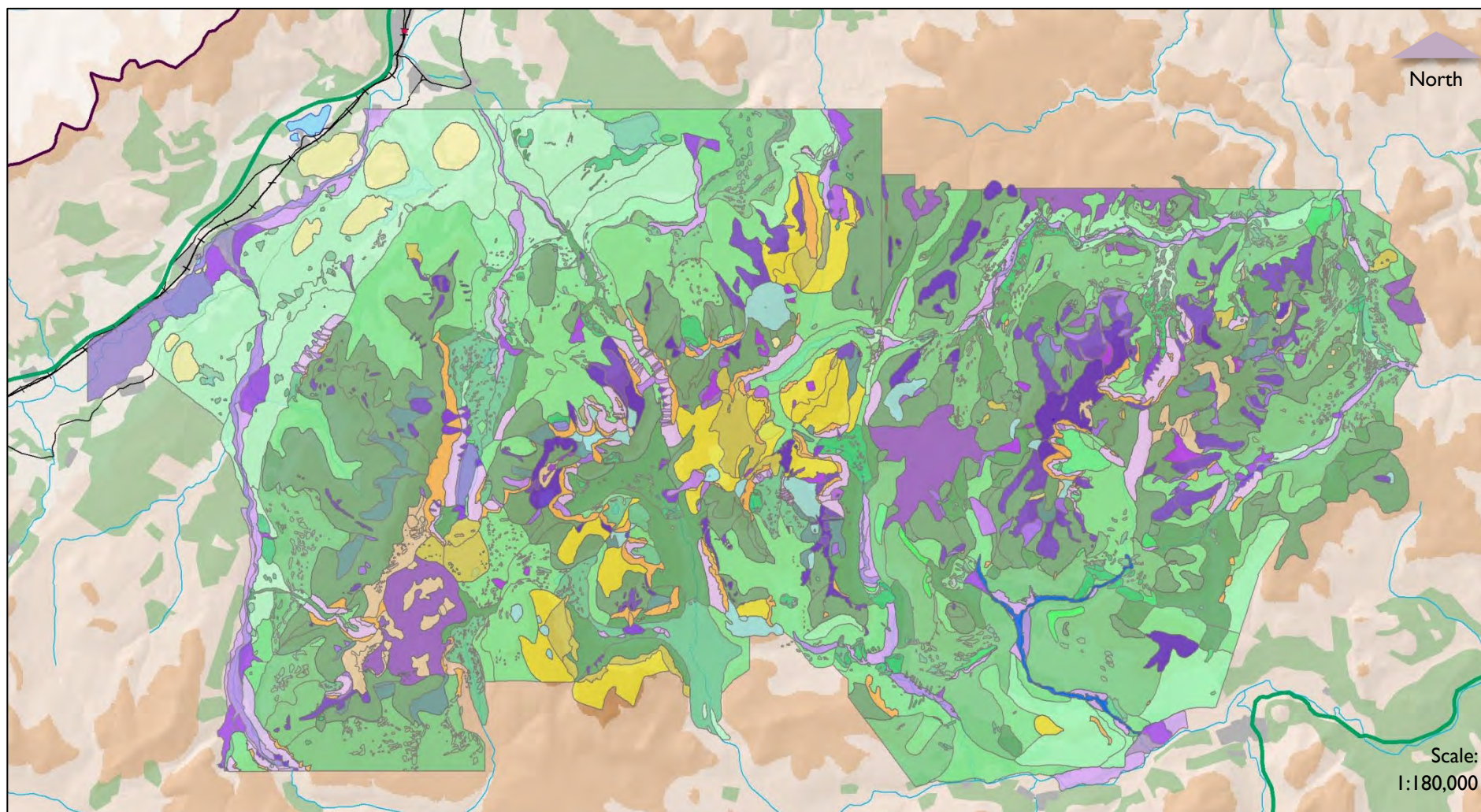





















Figure 55 Geomorphological heritage of the Cairngorm Mountains (legend on p. 144).

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



Postglacial and contemporary landforms and processes

-  Active river corridor
-  Debris cone
-  Debris slope
-  Large scale rockfall deposits
-  Partially vegetated wind stressed surface
-  Peat
-  Postglacial active alluvial fan surface
-  Postglacial relict alluvial fan surface
-  Postglacial river terraces and alluvium
-  Semi-permanent snow patch and melt-out deposits
-  Snow avalanche modified debris slope
-  Sparse vegetation
-  Wet flushes and snowmelt drainage
-  Wetland
















Relict periglacial landforms

-  Blockfield
-  Boulder lobes
-  Patterned ground
-  Rock glacier deposits
-  Solifluction sheets and lobes

Landforms of glacial erosion




-  Corrie headwall
-  Ice-scoured bedrock
-  Roche moutonnée
-  Thin regolith covered rock

Landforms of glacial and glaciofluvial deposition

-  Boulder and drift limit
-  Delta deposit
-  Dissected drift
-  Eskers
-  Former lake shoreline
-  Ice-contact slope
-  Ice-marginal kame
-  Kames and kettled kame
-  Kettle hole
-  Meltwater channel (bedrock)
-  Meltwater channel (drift)
-  Moraine
-  Moraine limit
-  Undifferentiated drift
-  Undifferentiated glaciofluvial deposits

-  Undifferentiated ice-marginal deposits

Other landform types

-  Rock outcrop
-  Stable vegetated surface
-  Tor

Cairngorms National Park. Issues include raising awareness of geodiversity *per se*, as well as the links between geodiversity and other elements of the landscape and land use (Kirkbride & Gordon, 2010).

Within the context of the National Park, the diversity of Earth heritage interests also offers potential opportunities for local involvement in income-generating tourism.

Energy

Because the CNPA has historically implemented quite restrictive policies on energy, developments of energy generating infrastructure have been relatively minor. Since 2010 there have only been 24 planning applications approved by the CNPA, giving a total installed capacity of around 4.2 Megawatts (MW). Of these, 14 were for hydroelectric schemes, 5 were wind turbines, 3 were biomass boilers and 2 were solar panel arrays (**Figure 56**).

It should be noted that the CNPA is a 'call in' authority and therefore planning applications in the National Park are decided by either the relevant local

authority or by the CNPA. The CNPA only 'calls in' and determines the bigger and most sensitive applications, while the rest are determined by the relevant local authority.

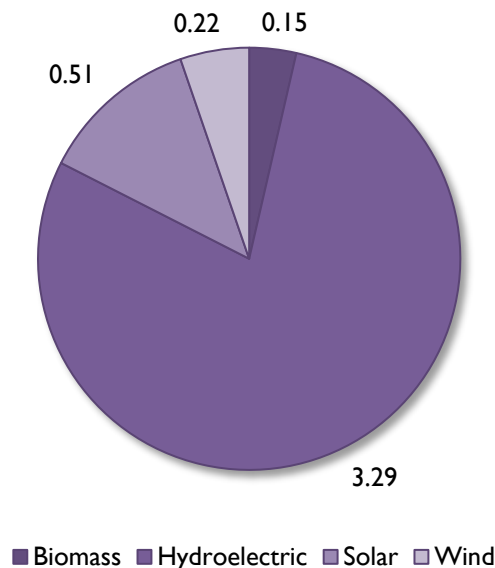


Figure 56 MW of installed renewable energy generation permitted by the CNPA since 2010.

Wind turbines, hydro schemes or large solar panel farms are likely to be 'called in', however smaller scale developments may not be. Furthermore, installing certain renewable energy technologies, such as

solar panels and biomass boilers is within the permitted development rights of householders and businesses provided certain conditions are met. Therefore, figures quoted within this section do not offer a comprehensive indication of the amount of energy generated within the National Park.

There is therefore currently a gap in the data available for renewable energy generation within the National Park that will need to be addressed for the SEA of the LDP.

Beauley-Denny Line

In 2010 Scottish Ministers granted consents to install a 400kV overhead electricity transmission line to replace an existing 132kV overhead transmission line between Beauly and Denny.

The proposed route for the replacement line will result in a reduction in the length of the transmission line and in the number of towers going through the Cairngorms National Park (**Figure 57**). The length of

the replacement line in the National Park will be 28 km, supported by 76 towers. It will replace the existing line, which is 36 km long and supported by 128 towers. The proposed route is on the boundary of the National Park and avoids settlements and popular tourist routes as far as possible.

Although the project is due to be completed in November 2015, a major operation will continue during 2015/16 to decommission and dismantle the original 132kV line and reinstate access tracks and ground disturbed by construction activity. Good progress was made during 2014 with the majority of the original 132kV towers being removed along the A9 between Dalwhinnie and Trinafour. Good progress has also been made to install replacement circuits between Etteridge and Boat of Garten, which will allow the removal of a further 40 km of existing overhead lines supported by steel towers. 53 km of 132kV overhead transmission line between Boat of Garten and Cairnmore has already been removed (Scottish and Southern Energy, 2015).

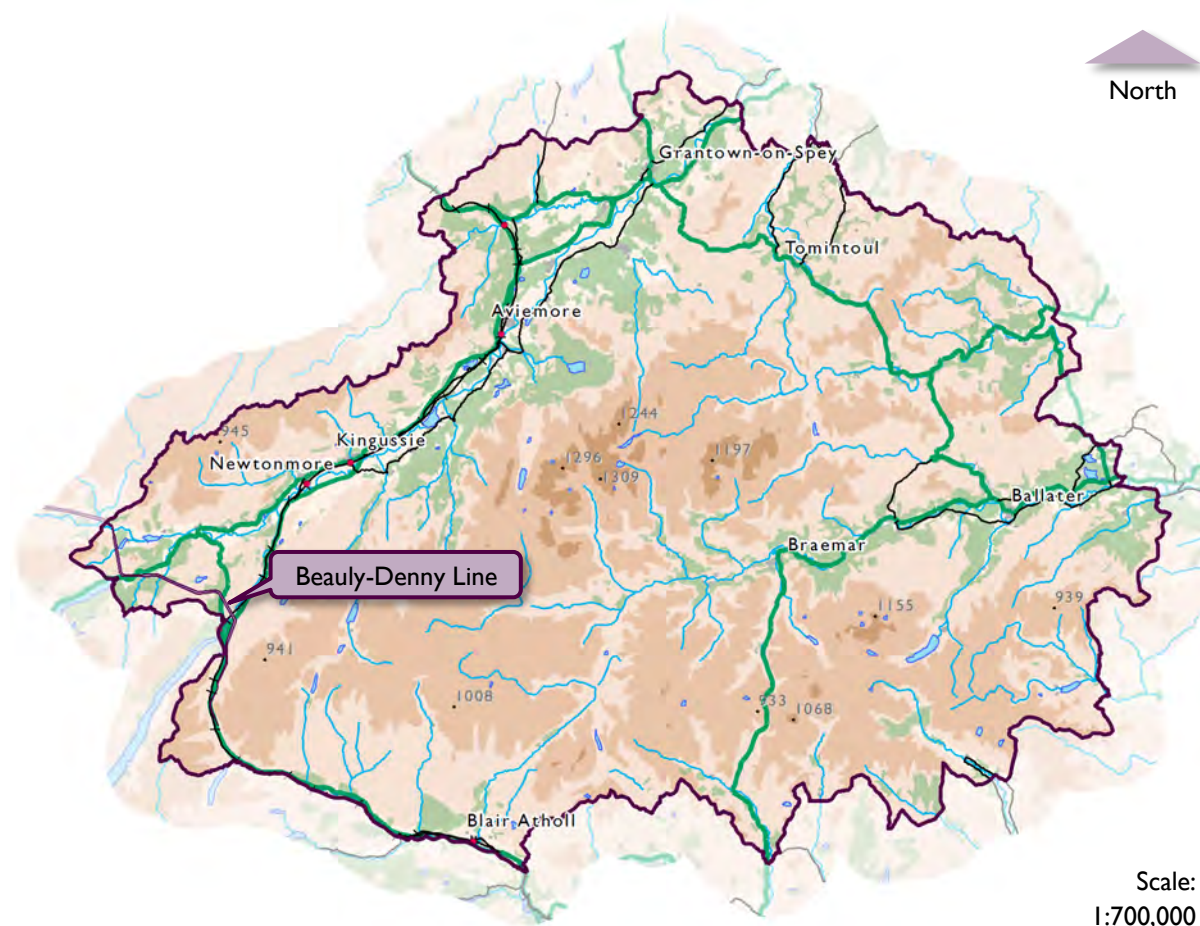


Figure 57 The Beaulay-Denny Line.

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Waste

Estimates of household waste and recycling for Local Authority (LA) areas for 2011-2014 are recorded by SEPA. Specific data for Scotland's national parks is not available and therefore to get an approximation of the Cairngorms National Park's contribution further assumptions need to be made.

Mid-year population estimates have been used as a proxy for proportionally attributing the waste produced and recycled for the LAs that cover the National Park's area to the National Park itself (see **Appendix 3** for further details). It is recognised that this is a blunt means of estimation; indeed estimates based on estimates should always be treated with caution. However, in the absence of detailed National Park specific information, the information presented in **Figure 58**, **Figure 59** and **Table 15** offer a 'best-guess' and a generalised baseline for measurement over the plan period.

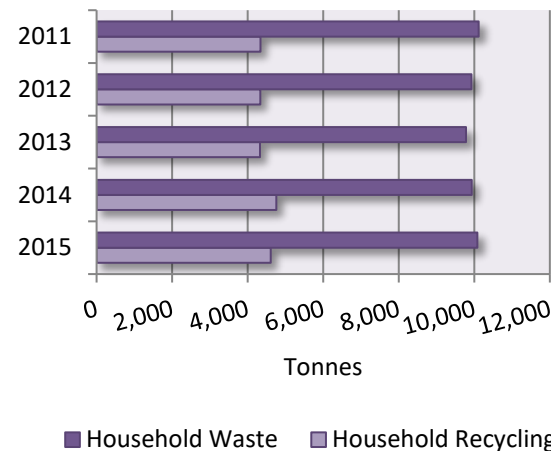


Figure 58 Estimated household waste produced in Cairngorms National Park.

(Source: www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste)

Table 15 Estimated household waste produced and recycled in the Cairngorms National Park.

(Source: www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/household-waste)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Household Waste (tonnes)	10,113	9,923	9,779	9,935	10,080
Household Waste (kg per person)	548	538	531	534	542
Household Recycling (tonnes)	4,340	4,335	4,326	4,759	4,608
Recycling Rate	42.9%	43.7%	44.2%	46.6%	45.8%

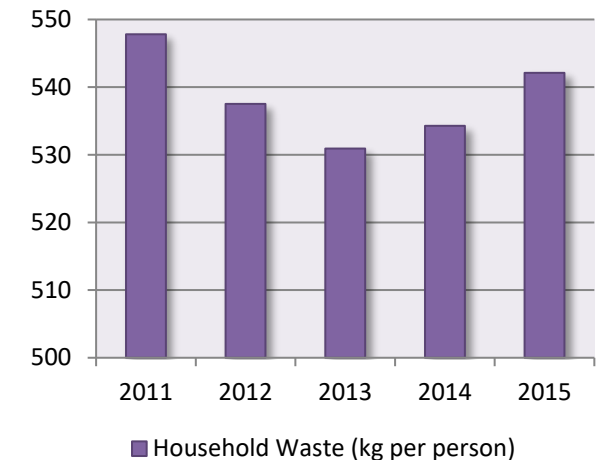


Figure 59 Estimated household waste per person in Cairngorms National Park.

According to this estimate the household waste per person is higher than the Scottish average, which for 2014 was 460 kg per person. However, it is estimated that the recycling rate is higher than the Scottish average, which in 2014 was 43.6%.

It should be recognised that the Cairngorms National Park is not responsible for waste management in the area, with this function falling to the Local Authorities that cover its area. The NPPP may however play a role in waste reduction, contributing the objectives of the Scottish Zero Waste Plan (Scottish Government, 2010), by promoting the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle

Transport Infrastructure

Road

The National Park benefits from relatively good transport infrastructure and services compared to many other rural areas in Scotland (**Table 16**). Four A Class roads, namely the A9, A93, A95 and A86 connect the area with Inverness, Moray,

Aberdeenshire, Perth and Kinross and the West Coast.

The A9 (**Figure 60**) is currently the subject of the A9 Dualling Strategy, which aims to link up the road's existing sections of dual carriageway to create a continuous Category 7 All Purpose Dual Carriageway between Inverness and Perth. It's one of the biggest infrastructure projects in Scotland's history and will involve the:

- Full grade separation of junctions to remove at-grade junctions;
- Grade separated junctions to provide direct links, over and under, the A9 for non-motorised user crossing / access;
- No gaps in the central reserve, to prevent right-turns across carriageways;
- Hard shoulder strips at least 1m width;
- Route, signage and lighting design to minimise overall visual impact (Transport Scotland, 2013, p. 1).



Figure 60 The A9 in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Once complete, the project is anticipated to provide the following benefits:

- Improved road safety and reduction in accident severity;
- Improved journey times and reliability;
- Safe crossing points to link non-motorised user routes and public transport facilities;
- Improved access to tourist and recreation sites;
- Improved trunk road transport infrastructure supporting sustainable economic growth, and resilience to climate change (Transport Scotland, 2013, pp. 1-2).

It is therefore anticipated that the programme will have significant implications for the LDP, which may result in cumulative or in-combination effects that demand consideration.

Networks of other A, B, C and unclassified roads provide access to other parts of the National Park. The area's geography means that links between certain parts of the National Park are relatively poor. A notable example is the route between Badenoch and Strathspey and Deeside, with the principle road, the A939 being susceptible to inclement weather.

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) gives an indication some of the accessibility issues faced by certain parts of the part, with 11 of the 24 data zones used to define the National Park falling within the Index's most deprived 10% in terms of geographic access to services (see **Figure 63** to **Figure 74**). It should be noted that such a situation is not unexpected for such a rural area, and none of the National Park's data zones rank highly in terms of overall deprivation.

Table 16 Approximate road infrastructure (in km), and the Authority responsible for its maintenance, in the Cairngorms National Park (source: Local Authorities).

Local Authority	A Class (Trunk)	A Class	B Class	C Class	Unclassified	Total ⁵
Aberdeenshire						
Angus ⁶	0	0	65.363	49.499	5.979	120.841
Highland ⁷	128	40.7	106.7	69.9	169.9	515.2
Moray	0	18.1	24.4	10.6	24.6	77.7
Perth & Kinross	43.54 ⁸	16.6	15.16	0.34	23.0	124.3

⁵ Figures may not sum due to rounding.

⁶ Angus Council does not keep a record of road length within the National Park. Therefore the figure quoted are for public roads in Angus that cross into the National Park.

⁷ Figures refer to the Badenoch & Strathspey Area of Highland Council.

⁸ Trunk A Roads value managed by Perth & Kinross Council includes only one side of the dual carriageway along Glen Garry.

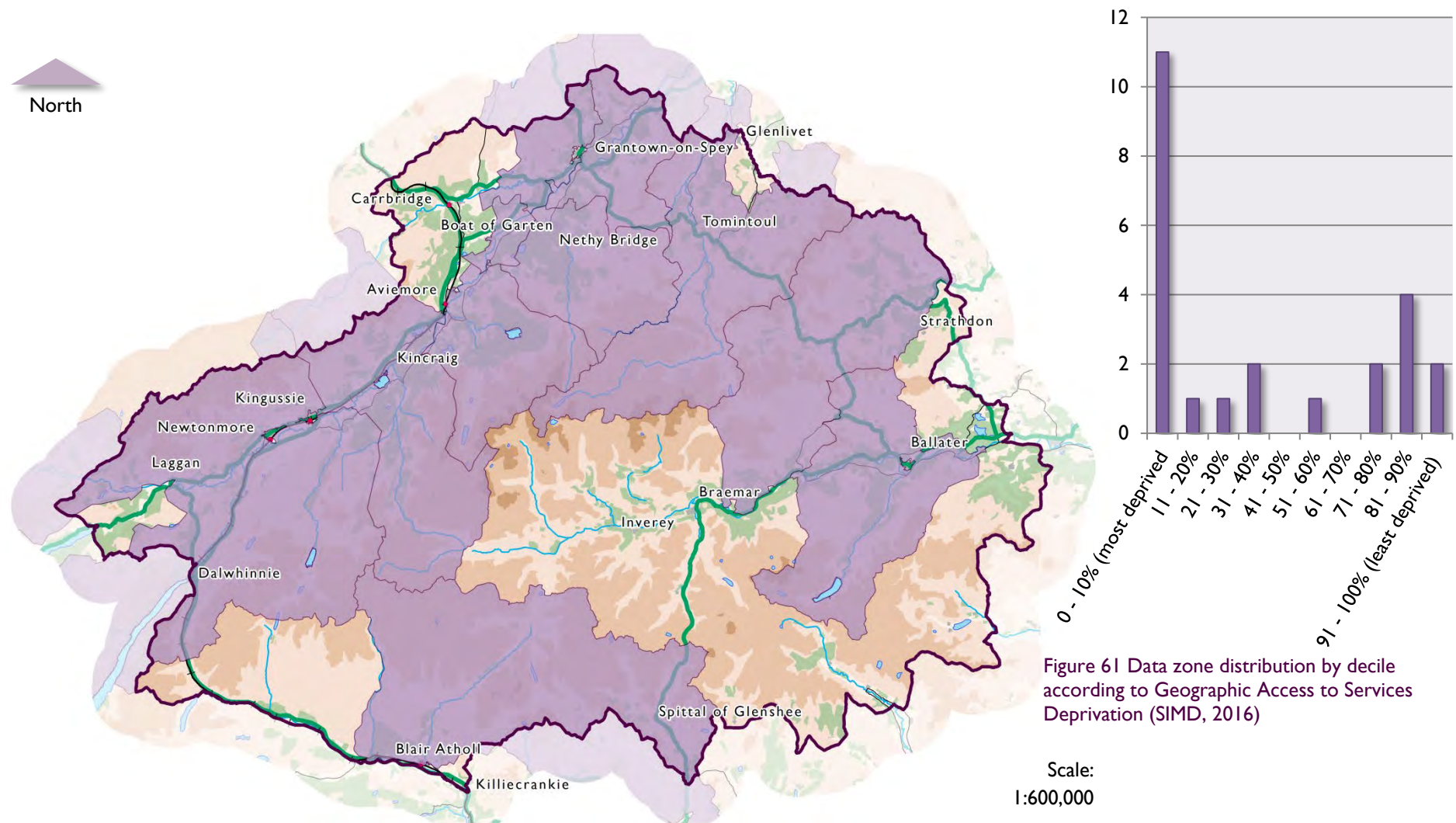


Figure 62 Data zones ranked within the 10% most deprived according to drive times (SIMD 2016).

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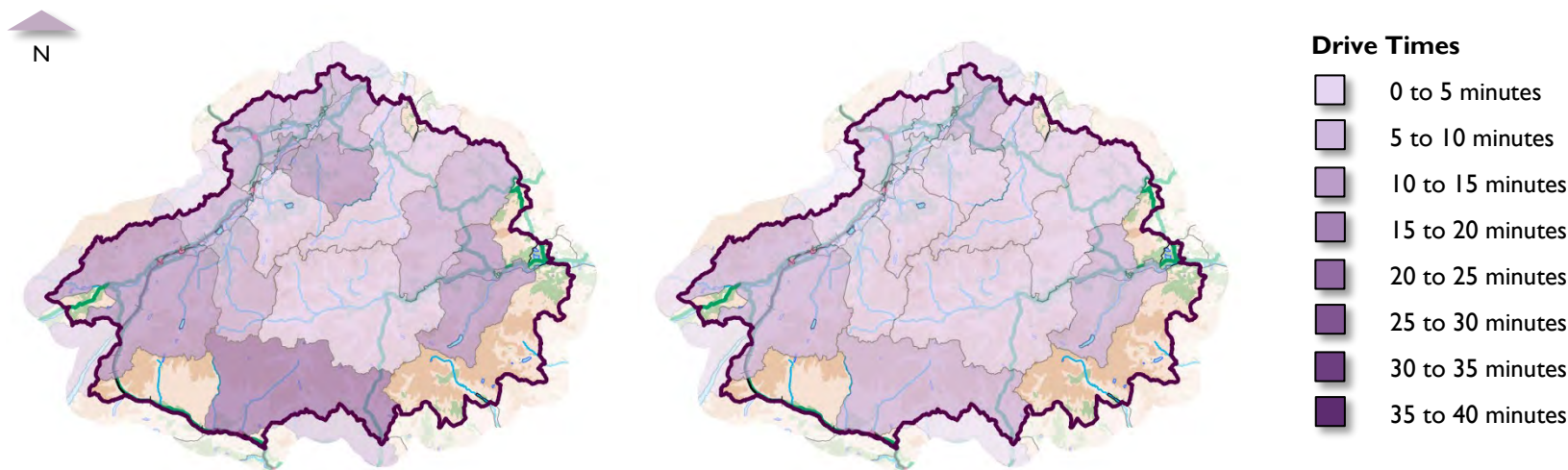


Figure 63 Average drive time to a GP surgery (SIMD, 2016). Figure 64 Average drive time to a Post Office (SIMD, 2016). All drive time maps are produced at a scale of 1:1,400,000 when printed at A4.

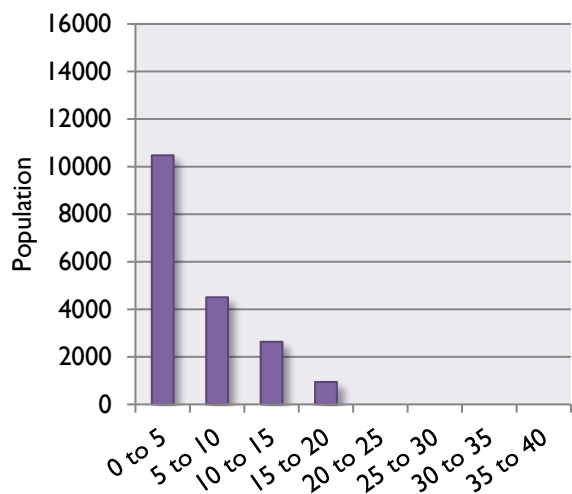


Figure 65 Population distribution by average drive time (minutes) to a GP surgery (SIMD, 2016).

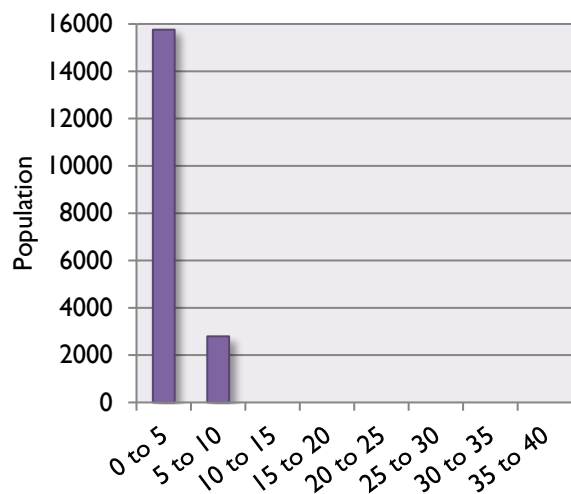


Figure 66 Population distribution by average drive time (minutes) to a Post Office (SIMD, 2016).

To maintain consistency with SIMD data, population data is based on 2016 mid-year estimates.

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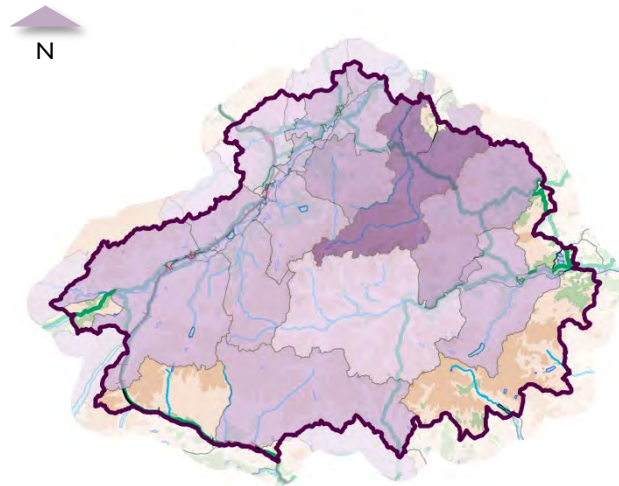


Figure 67 Average drive time to a petrol station (SIMD, 2016).

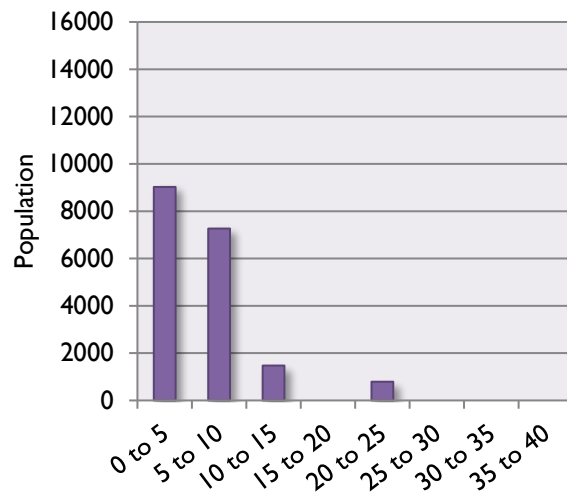


Figure 69 Population distribution by average drive time (minutes) to a petrol station (SIMD, 2016).

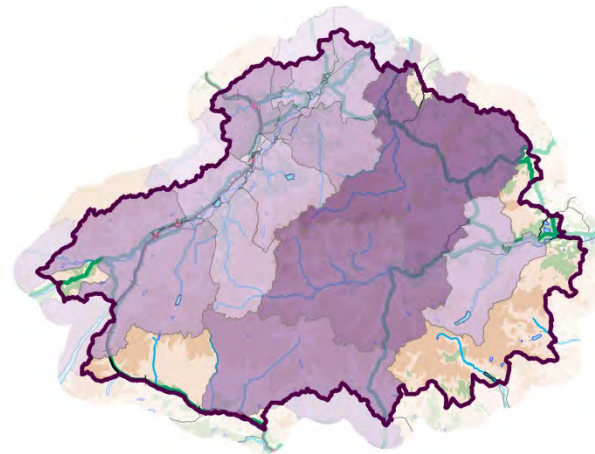


Figure 68 Average drive time to a retail centre (SIMD, 2016).

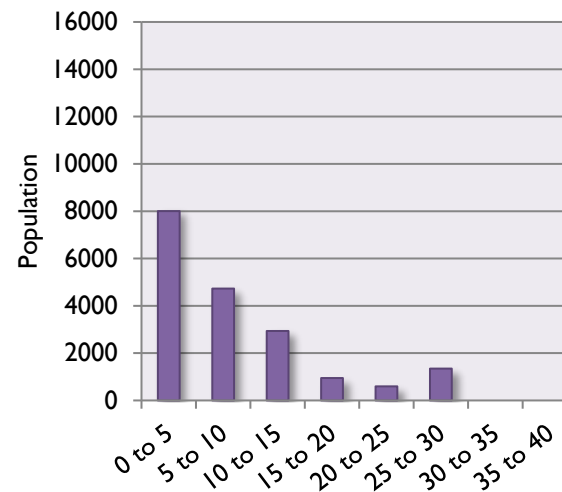
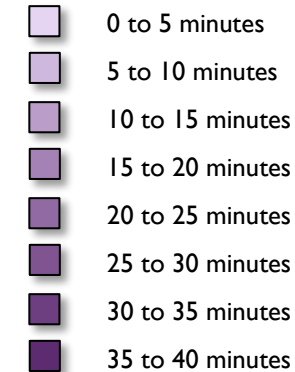


Figure 70 Population distribution by average drive time (minutes) to a retail centre (SIMD, 2016).

Drive Times



All drive time maps are produced at a scale of 1:1,400,000 when printed at A4.

To maintain consistency with SIMD data, population data is based on 2016 mid-year estimates.

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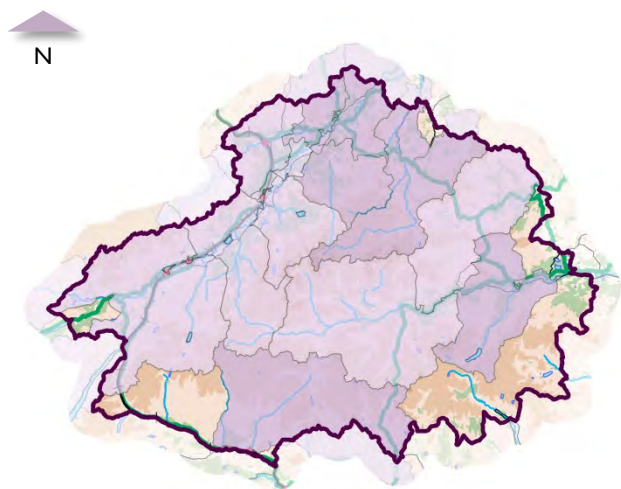


Figure 71 Average drive time to primary school (SIMD, 2016).

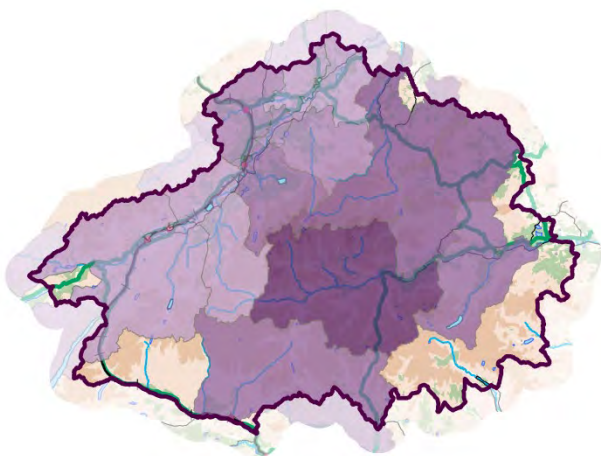
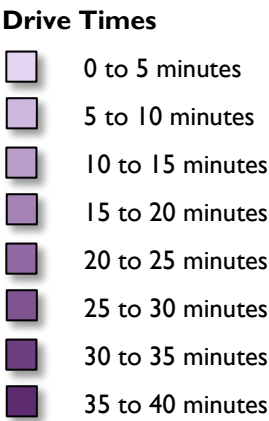


Figure 72 Average drive time to secondary school (SIMD, 2016).



All drive time maps are produced at a scale of 1:1,400,000 when printed at A4.

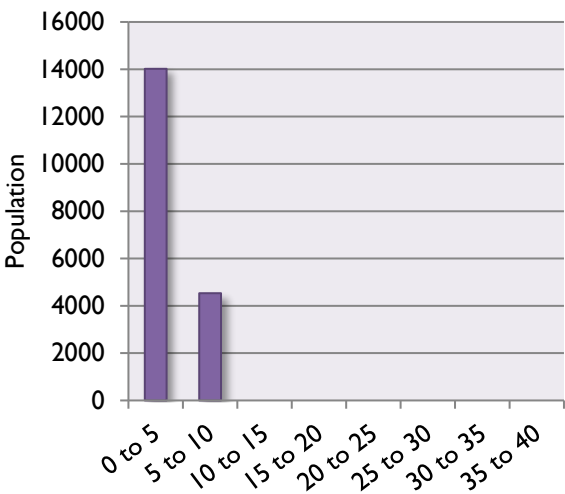


Figure 73 Population distribution by average drive time (minutes) to primary school (SIMD, 2016).

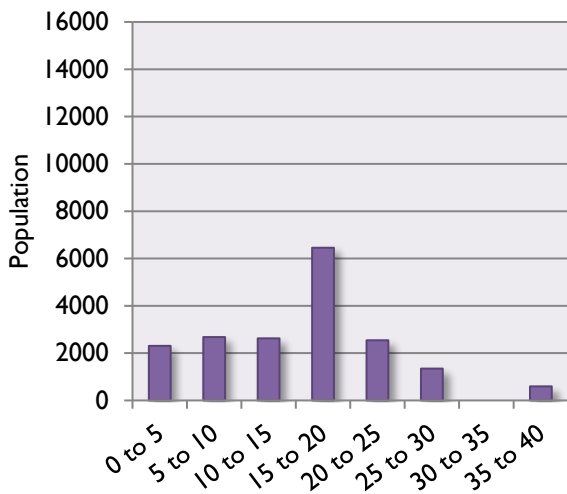


Figure 74 Population distribution by average drive time (minutes) to secondary school (SIMD, 2016).

To maintain consistency with SIMD data, population data is based on 2016 mid-year estimates.

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Drive time data provided in **Figure 63** to **Figure 74** also demonstrates the nature of the National Park's road infrastructure, with the population often having to travel for a long time to reach key services. Of particular significance are the times needed to travel from the Braemar area to reach the nearest secondary school or retail centre.

The rurality of the area is also demonstrated through the relatively high instances of car ownership within the National Park (**Figure 75** and **Figure 76**). According to the 2011 Census around 85% of households had access to a car or van, which is higher than the Scottish level of around 70%. As a result, a high proportion of the National Park's population have a reliance on the area's road infrastructure.

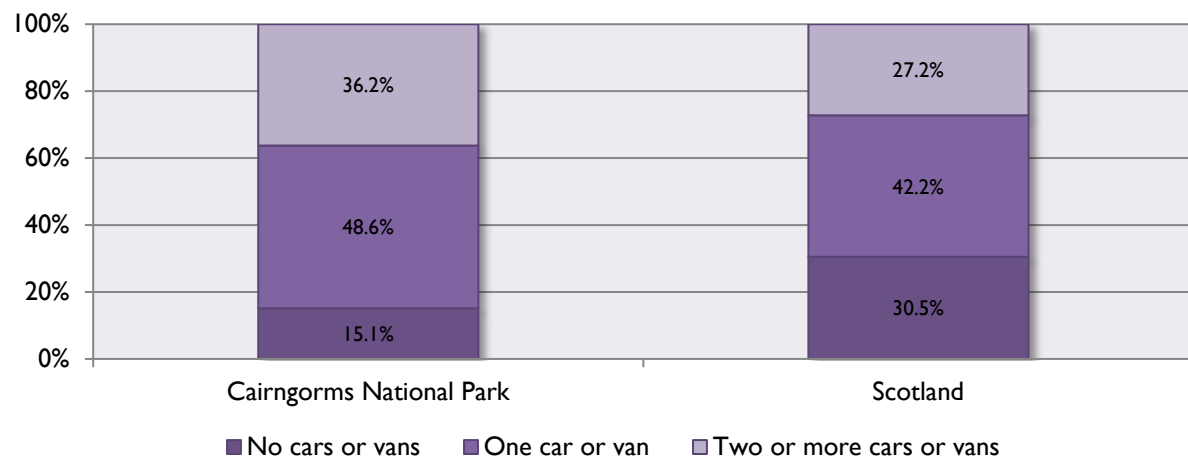


Figure 75 Proportion of households with access to a car or van (Census table LCI40ISC).

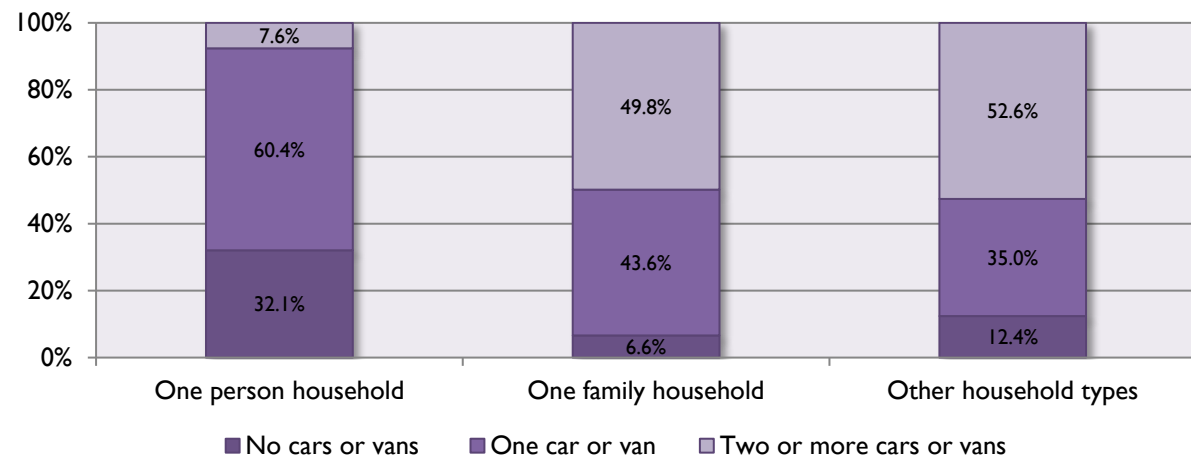


Figure 76 Household composition by car or van availability in the Cairngorms National Park (Census table LCI40ISC).

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For further information on variables, see www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/variables.

Rail

The Highland Main Railway Line which runs between Inverness and Perth runs through the National Park, with stations at Carrbridge, Aviemore, Kingussie, Newtonmore, Dalwhinnie and Blari Atholl. Much of the line is single track, and trains coming in opposite directions are often timed to arrive at stations at the same time, where crossing loops permit them to pass.

If the annual passenger usage at stations, which is based on sales of tickets, is taken as an indicator of the overall use of the line, then there is an indication that its popularity has increased significantly within the National Park over the last 17 years (**Figure 77** and **Table 15**).

The data on fare types also gives an indication of the types of journey being made. For example, while, season ticket use remains extremely low (around 4%) relative to Scotland (around 28%) and the UK as a whole (around 39%), their increase in their use between 1997 and 2016, particularly at Aviemore station, may offer an insight into

the impact of the town's significant population growth over the past 15 years has had (see **Topic 8: Population and Human Health** (p. 282) for further information).

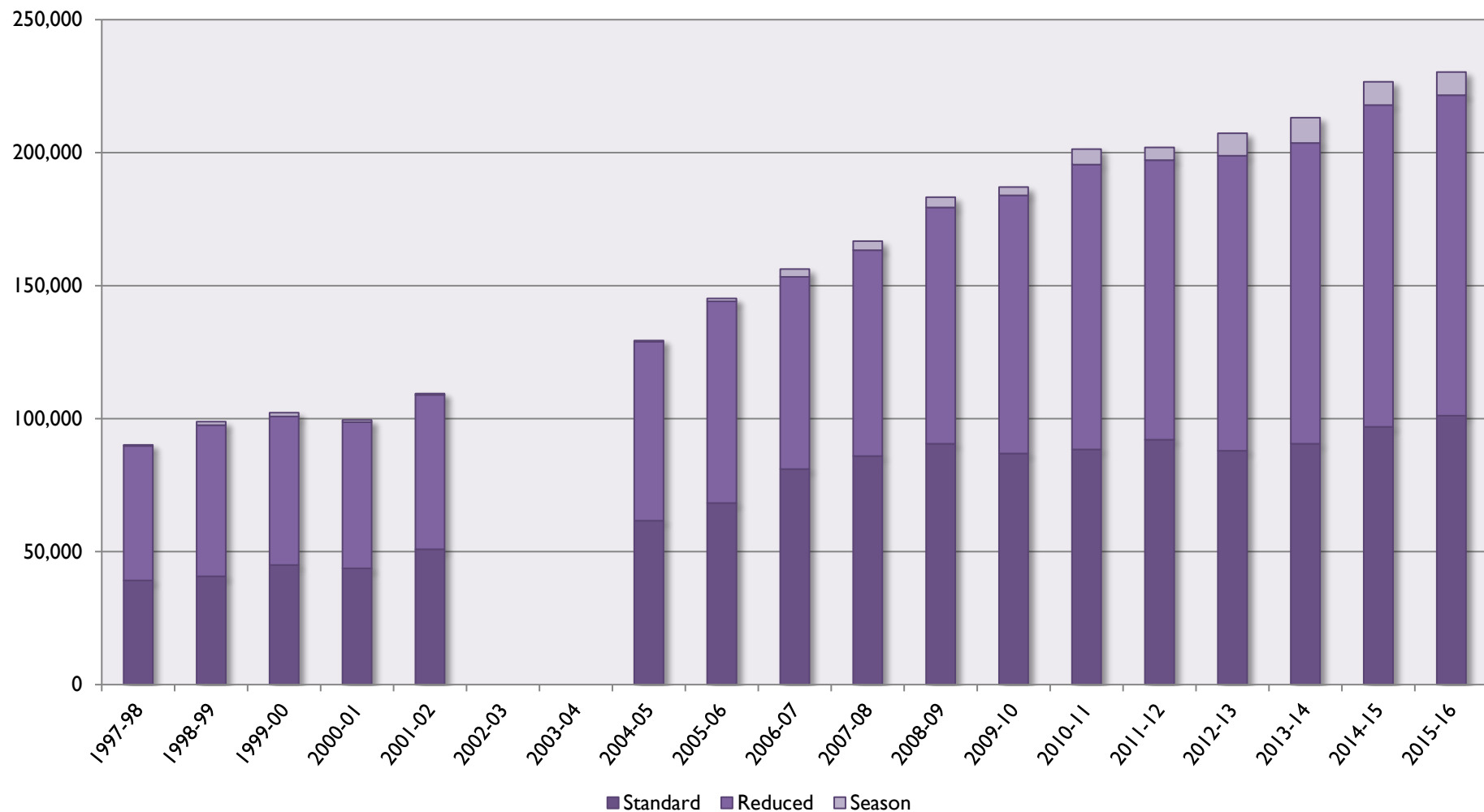


Figure 77 Total annual passenger usage (the sum of entrances and exits) by fare type at stations within the Cairngorms National Park (Source: www.orr.gov.uk/statistics/published-stats/station-usage-estimates)⁹.

⁹ No fare information is available for 2002-03, while no data at all is available for 2003-04.

Table 17 Annual passenger usage at stations (the sum of entrances and exits) within the Cairngorms National Park 1997 – 2016 (Source: www.orr.gov.uk/statistics/published-stats/station-usage-estimates).

Station Name	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Carrbridge	2,365	2,030	2,432	2,441	1,930	1,531	1,910	2,987	3,954	5,508	3,796	4,500	5,118	5,636	4,454	5,540	6,256	6,898
Aviemore	53,872	61,358	61,795	62,338	70,230	70,272	80,977	91,456	101,294	108,353	121,090	124,972	132,336	132,052	136,456	141,311	150,724	152,082
Kingussie	17,565	18,856	21,196	19,207	22,585	23,815	27,725	30,045	32,135	33,416	38,054	35,838	38,544	40,298	40,954	41,400	42,522	42,850
Newtonmore	3,528	3,868	4,013	4,146	4,062	4,184	5,396	6,815	6,585	7,060	7,446	7,972	9,484	9,406	8,958	8,326	8,636	9,432
Dalwhinnie	2,080	1,974	1,937	2,027	2,062	2,066	1,619	2,013	1,774	1,975	2,296	2,208	1,894	1,984	2,172	2,472	2,460	2,392
Blair Atholl	10,710	10,776	10,893	9,341	8,573	8,613	11,708	11,896	10,491	10,443	10,580	11,572	13,948	12,608	14,280	14,084	16,062	16,652
Total	90,120	98,862	102,266	99,500	109,442	110,481	129,335	145,212	156,233	166,755	183,262	187,062	201,324	201,984	207,274	213,133	226,660	230,306

Internet Infrastructure

Good digital connectivity is increasingly seen as a basic service that is required by residents, businesses, students, visitors and the public sector.

There are currently 28 telephone exchanges that cover the Cairngorms National Park, not all of which are located within its boundary. Combined they service around 15,065 telephone connections (not all within the National Park area) of which 13,682 are classed as residential and 1,176 as non-residential. All 28 exchanges are enabled to provide ADSL broadband, with all but two providing connection speeds up to 8 Mb/s. The two that are not equipped for these speeds are the Clova (ESCLO) and Advie (NSADV) Exchanges, which only provide speeds of up to 512 Kb/s (SamKnows, 2015). Average speeds across the National Park are however currently in the 5-6 M/bs range (Broadband Speedchecker, 2015).

A survey of 634 National Park households and businesses conducted in 2011/2012

found that 93.7% had access to broadband, with 1.7% claiming to use dial-up and 4.4% not to have any internet access at all. Speed was however found to be an issue for many, with 43.3% rating their connection as slow or very slow (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2013).

Following the survey, a Digital Connectivity Audit was carried out by Broadband Strategies Limited (2012). The study concluded that the following targets should be set for all premises within the National Park:

- A minimum download speed of 2 Mbit/s and 350 Kbps upload with better than 150 ms latency and a contention ratio of 100:1 or better for residents and 50:1 or better for business by 2014.
- An average download speed of 10 Mbit/s down and 4 Mbit/s up, for all residents by 2015.
- Access to high speed broadband for all residents and businesses by 2020

Since then, high-speed fibre broadband networks have been programmed for expansion across most of the National

Park's area by the end of 2016 (**Figure 78**). Once complete, Tomintoul will become the highest village in Scotland to be connected to high-speed fibre broadband (Digital Scotland, 2015).

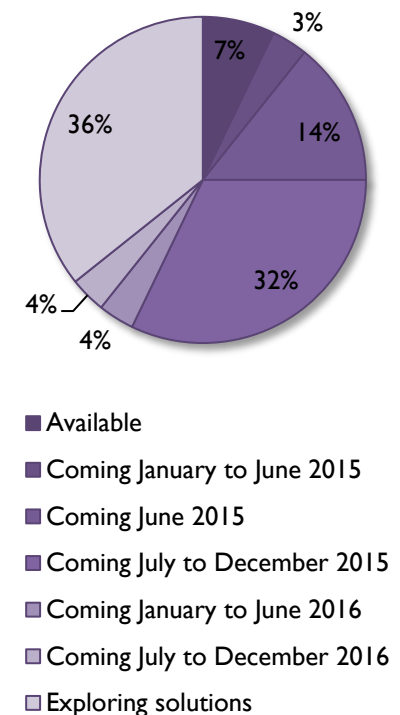


Figure 78 Timetable for rollout of high-speed fibre broadband networks for telephone exchanges servicing the Cairngorms National Park (Digital Scotland, 2015).

Key Messages

Material assets cover a wide range of environmental concerns.

39 GCR sites within or overlapping the National Park boundary; combined they cover an area of around 592 km².

The CNPA have permitted around 4.2 MW of renewable energy since 2010 although gaps remain in the data relating to total energy production. The upgrade of the Beuley-Denny line is nearing completion.

The level of household waste produced appears to be reducing while recycling rates appear to be increasing.

Transport infrastructure, while good along the National Park's main corridors, is poor elsewhere in the National Park, resulting in long drive times and high levels of deprivation in SIMD domains relating to access. The development of new infrastructure, in particular the dualling of the A9, may result in cumulative effects when implemented alongside the LDP.

Rail use is on the increase, although the reliance on private transport remains high.

The National Park's internet infrastructure is currently being upgraded, although plans are yet to be confirmed for a third of the exchanges servicing the area.

Inter-relationships with other topics

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Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora

“Biodiversity – the variety of Life on Earth – makes our planet habitable and beautiful. We depend on it for food, energy, raw materials, air and water that make life possible and drive our economy. We look to the natural environment for equally important things like aesthetic pleasure, artistic inspiration and recreation.”

European Commission Natura 2000.

The Cairngorms National Park is a haven for nature and wildlife and is of great significance for Scotland and the UK. The National Park covers less than two per cent of the UK landmass but is home to 25% of its rare animal, insect, lichen, fungi and insect species. Habitats are rich and varied and include the montane alpine plants high on the Cairngorms plateaux, the sources of renowned salmon rivers the Spey, Dee, Tay and South Esk and stands of trembling Aspen in Strathspey which support rare insects and fungi.

Protected Areas

Protected areas represent the very best of Scotland's landscapes, plants and animals, rocks, fossils and landforms. Their protection and management will help to ensure that they remain in good health for all to enjoy, both now and for future generations.

The Cairngorms National Park is home to a number of areas designated to meet the needs of international directives and treaties, national legislation and policies as well as more local needs and interests.

National Designations

National designations cover a range of different types of protected area, including Natural Nature Reserves (NNR) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), both of which are located within the Cairngorms National Park. The National Park is also home to a number of non-statutory

protected sites, such as the RSPB reserve at Loch Garten.

National Nature Reserves

NNRs are statutory nature reserves designed under Part III of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Most reserves have habitats and species that are nationally or internationally important so the wildlife is managed very carefully. However, people are also encouraged to enjoy NNRs too and so most have some form of visitor facilities that are designed to ensure recreational activities are not pursued without heed for the wildlife and habitat that exists there. The Cairngorms National Park is home to 11 NNRs¹⁰ (**Table 16** and **Figure 79**), which cover a combined area of around 513 km². The NNRs are run by a range of organisations. For example, most of the Abernethy and Inch Marshes NNRs are also managed as part of RSPB reserves.

¹⁰ While the Cairngorms NNR, Dinnet Oakwood NNR and Morrone Birkwood NNR are technically

declared NNRs (see Table 12), they are under review and not managed or promoted as NNRs.

Table 18 National Nature Reserves in the Cairngorms National Park.

Site Code	Name	Year Est.	Area (ha)
5013	Cairngorms	1954	25,963.63
5020	Craigellachie	1960	257.46
5023	Dinnet Oakwood	1966	30.8
5032	Glen Tanar	1979	4,186.76
5051	Morrone Birkwood	1972	226.48
5054	Muir of Dinnet	1977	1,166.17
8628	Insh Marshes	2003	695.18
8670	Corrie Fee	2005	165.38
10097	Invereshie and Inshriach	2007	3,730.86
10098	Glenmore	2007	2,119.49
10099	Abernethy	2007	12,753.81

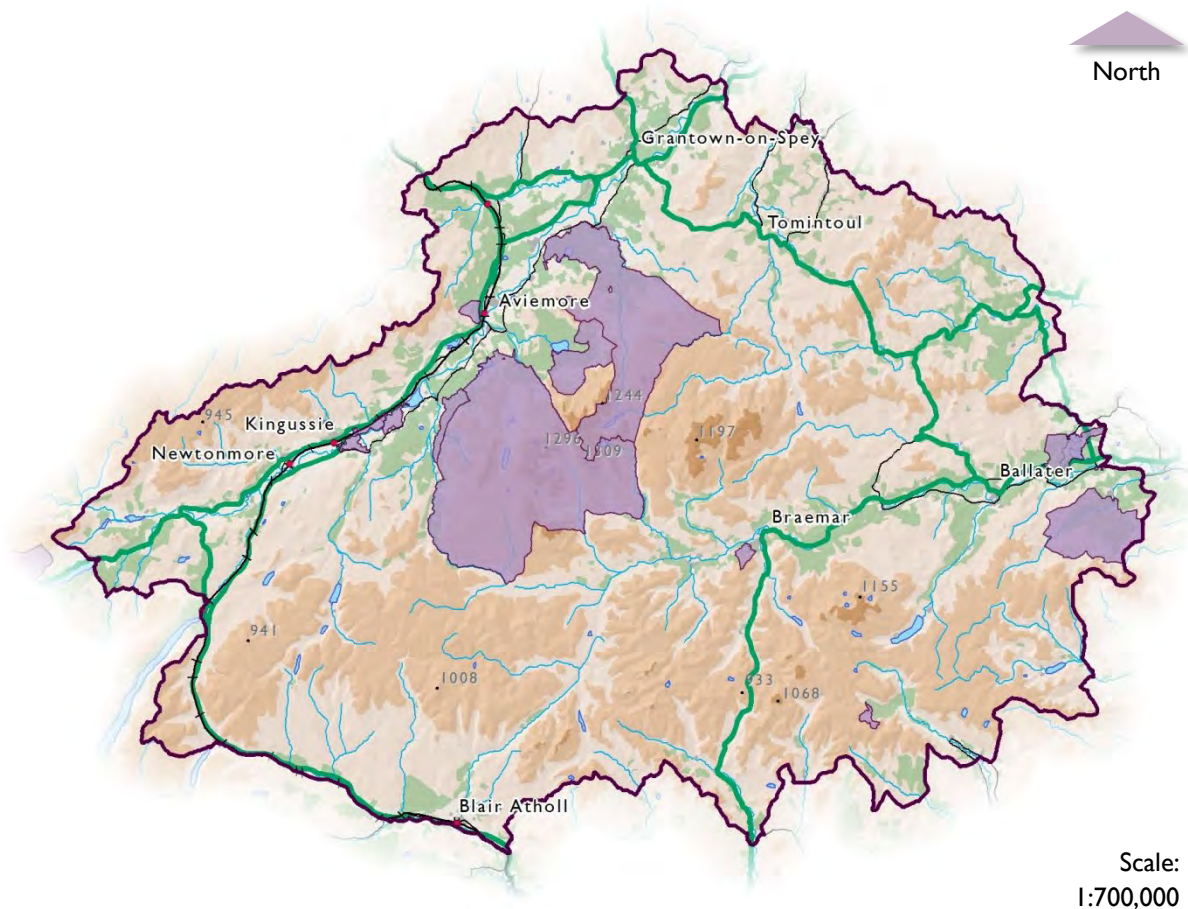


Figure 79 National Nature Reserves in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Designated under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, SSSIs are those areas of land and water that NatureScot considers to best represent Scotland's natural heritage - its diversity of plants, animals and habitats, rocks and landforms, or a combinations of such natural features (see Table 19, Figure 80 and Figure 81).

They are the essential building blocks of Scotland's protected areas for nature conservation and therefore many are also designated as European sites.

SSSIs designated solely for geological or physiographical features are also covered in **Topic 4: Soil** (p. 162) and **Topic 5: Material Assets** (p. 173).

A simple colour scheme has been used to highlight the condition of interests, the key to which is provided:

Features in favourable maintained condition
Features that are unfavourable but recovering or favourable but declining condition
Features that are unfavourable no change or declining condition
Features that have not been monitored

Table 19 Condition of SSSIs located within the Cairngorms National Park (data provided by NatureScot 19 November 2020).

SSSI	Feature Name	Assessed Condition	Assessed Visit Date
Abernethy Forest	Basin fen	Favourable Maintained	10/18/2014
	Beetle assemblage	Favourable Maintained	11/17/2002
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	4/23/2013
	Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus), breeding	Favourable Declining	4/19/2014
	Crested tit (Lophophanes cristatus), breeding	Favourable Maintained	05/03/1998
	Dragonfly assemblage	Favourable Maintained	08/01/2013
	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	3/17/2015
	Fungi assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/01/2014
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	08/01/2013

	Lichen assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/25/2010
	Native pinewood	Favourable Maintained	9/30/2008
	Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	6/14/2013
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	3/19/2015
	Raised bog	Favourable Maintained	08/12/2014
	Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/28/2012
	Subalpine dry heath	Unfavourable No change	9/27/2004
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	3/28/2007
Aldclune and Invervack Meadows	Lowland calcareous grassland	Unfavourable No change	8/22/2012
Allt Mor	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	4/27/2007
Alvie	Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	5/15/2013
	Hydromorphological mire range	Favourable Maintained	08/05/2014
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/16/2013
	Upland oak woodland	Unfavourable No change	7/20/2005
Beinn a' Ghlo	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/20/2013
	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/17/2013
	Caledonian Igneous	Favourable Maintained	11/24/2010
	Dalradian	Favourable Maintained	6/21/2016
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable Recovering	7/22/2010
	Upland birch woodland	Favourable Maintained	6/15/2016
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Declining	8/24/2014
Blair Atholl Meadow	Lowland calcareous grassland	Unfavourable No change	7/17/2007
Bochel Wood	Upland birch woodland	Favourable Maintained	6/19/2000
Caenlochan	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	07/01/2003

	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	12/31/2005
	Dystrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	07/02/2004
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/26/2017
	Lichen assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/03/2010
	Montane assemblage	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2006
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	7/26/2011
	Vascular plant assemblage	Unfavourable No change	08/12/2017
Cairngorms	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/15/2006
	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/18/2005
	Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Favourable Declining	07/01/2011
	Dystrophic and oligotrophic lochs		
	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	07/08/2015
	Fungi assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/21/2015
	Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	10/21/2007
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/30/2013
	Lichen assemblage	Favourable Declining	8/19/2010
	Mineralogy of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	8/30/2006
	Native pinewood	Unfavourable Declining	1/27/2009
	Ptarmigan (<i>Lagopus muta</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	7/17/2004
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	08/06/2015
	Snow bunting (<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	7/24/2004
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	8/25/2015
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	9/26/2013
Cairnwell	Alpine calcareous grassland	Favourable Maintained	8/20/2008

	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Declining	7/28/2016
Coyles of Muick	Calaminarian grassland and serpentine heath	Favourable Maintained	7/25/2012
	Subalpine flushes	Favourable Maintained	07/08/2008
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/25/2012
Craig Leek	Bryophyte assemblage	Unfavourable Declining	5/22/2015
	Native pinewood	Favourable Maintained	09/10/2009
	Subalpine calcareous grassland	Favourable Maintained	08/01/2006
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable Declining	7/16/2012
	Upland birch woodland	Unfavourable No change	10/08/2015
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	11/21/2013
Craigellachie	Moth assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/13/2014
	Upland birch woodland	Favourable Maintained	7/23/2009
Craigendarroch	Upland oak woodland	Favourable Maintained	07/10/2013
Crathie Wood	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	08/05/2013
	Juniper scrub	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2012
	Native pinewood	Favourable Maintained	8/13/2009
	Rocky slopes (includes inland cliff, rocky outcrops, chasmophytic vegetation)	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2012
	Upland birch woodland	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2012
Creag Clunie and the Lion's Face	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	09/02/2015
	Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	3/31/2011
	Elm Gyalecta lichen (Gyalecta ulmi)	Favourable Declining	11/13/2013
	Lichen assemblage	Favourable Maintained	11/13/2013
	Native pinewood	Unfavourable Declining	08/08/2011

	Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	03/01/2015
Creag Dhubh	Upland birch woodland	Unfavourable No change	07/03/2009
Creag Meagaidh	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/26/2013
	Rocky slopes (includes inland cliff, rocky outcrops, chasmophytic vegetation)	Favourable Maintained	10/02/2015
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable Recovering	10/02/2015
	Upland birch woodland	Favourable Maintained	09/10/2015
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Recovered	09/04/2011
Creag nan Gamhainn	Broad-leaved helleborine (<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>)	Favourable Maintained	8/28/2012
	Lowland calcareous grassland	Favourable Maintained	8/28/2012
	Lowland neutral grassland	Favourable Maintained	7/14/2008
	Northern brown argus butterfly (<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>)	Favourable Maintained	08/06/2013
	Springs (including flushes)	Unfavourable Declining	6/26/2013
	Upland birch woodland	Favourable Maintained	7/16/2002
Dalnabo Quarry	Mineralogy of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	10/18/2007
Dinnet Oakwood	Upland oak woodland	Favourable Maintained	07/12/2002
Drumochter Hills	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	4/25/2003
	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	10/11/2011
	Montane assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2006
	Vascular plant assemblage	Unfavourable Declining	8/15/2003
Eastern Cairngorms	Arctic charr (<i>Salvelinus alpinus</i>)	Favourable Maintained	7/18/2008
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/14/2013
	Bryophyte assemblage	Unfavourable Declining	7/31/2010
	Dystrophic and oligotrophic lochs	Favourable Maintained	6/21/2010

	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	07/08/2015
	Fungi assemblage	Favourable Declining	10/22/2012
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Declining	07/04/2013
	Lichen assemblage		
	Native pinewood	Unfavourable Declining	04/01/2008
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	08/07/2003
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	8/27/2015
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/31/2010
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	4/30/2003
Fafernie	Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	07/04/2011
Fodderletter	Lowland acid grassland	Favourable Declining	8/31/2018
	Springs (including flushes)	Favourable Declining	6/25/2013
Forest of Clunie	Black grouse (<i>Tetrao tetrix</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	5/15/2015
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	5/29/2009
	Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	5/29/2009
	Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable Declining	08/01/2010
	Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	5/29/2009
Garbh Choire	Alpine flush	Favourable Recovered	6/22/2011
	Bryophyte assemblage	Unfavourable Declining	10/27/2004
	Snowbed	Unfavourable No change	08/03/2012
	Spring-head, rill and flush	Unfavourable No change	07/10/2006
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	08/03/2012
	Vascular plant assemblage	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2005
Glas Tulaichean	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Recovered	7/13/2010

Glen Callater	Alpine blue-sow-thistle (<i>Cicerbita alpina</i>)	Favourable Maintained	09/03/2015
	Alpine heath	Favourable Maintained	7/30/2015
	Blanket bog	Unfavourable Declining	7/30/2015
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/21/2013
	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	09/11/2014
	Mineralogy of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	07/10/2013
	Oligotrophic loch	Favourable Declining	8/18/2015
	Spring-head, rill and flush	Favourable Maintained	09/05/2001
	Tall herb ledge	Favourable Maintained	7/30/2015
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	7/30/2015
	Vascular plant assemblage	Unfavourable No change	08/04/2006
Glen Ey Gorge	Dalradian	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2012
	Subalpine dry heath	Favourable Declining	5/24/2013
	Tall herb ledge	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2012
Glen Fender Meadows	Lowland calcareous grassland	Favourable Maintained	08/02/2002
	Lowland dry heath	Unfavourable Declining	06/02/2014
	Springs (including flushes)	Unfavourable Declining	09/02/2004
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Declining	08/09/2014
Glen Garry	Dalradian	Favourable Maintained	1/29/2001
Glen Tanar	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	4/30/2014
	Fungi assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/22/2015
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/26/2013
	Native pinewood	Favourable Maintained	04/08/2010
	Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/23/2012

	Subalpine dry heath	Favourable Maintained	11/17/2009
Glen Tilt Woods	Upland mixed ash woodland	Favourable Maintained	8/15/2000
Glenmore Forest	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	4/30/2009
	Narrow-headed ant (<i>Formica exsecta</i>)	Favourable Maintained	8/30/2013
	Native pinewood	Unfavourable Recovering	6/16/2008
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	3/19/2015
	Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	03/07/2012
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/23/2007
Green Hill of Strathdon	Calaminarian grassland and serpentine heath	Favourable Maintained	08/02/2002
	Moorland juniper	Favourable Maintained	7/29/2011
	Subalpine dry heath	Favourable Maintained	08/12/2016
	Subalpine flushes	Favourable Declining	08/11/2016
Inchrory	Mountain whorl snail (<i>Vertigo alpestris</i>)	Favourable Maintained	7/17/2013
	Northern brown argus butterfly (<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>)	Favourable Maintained	08/06/2013
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	10/31/1999
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	10/24/2012
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Recovered	06/09/2008
Kinlochlaggan Boulder Beds	Dalradian	Favourable Maintained	01/08/2014
Kinveachy Forest	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	06/08/2007
	Native pinewood	Unfavourable Recovering	6/24/2008
Ladder Hills	Alpine heath	Favourable Maintained	07/04/2013
	Blanket bog	Favourable Maintained	09/03/1999
	Mineralogy of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	3/31/2006

	Subalpine dry heath	Unfavourable Declining	04/09/2007
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	07/04/2013
Loch Brandy	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/31/2010
	Oligotrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	07/01/2004
Loch Etteridge	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	3/28/2000
Loch Moraig	Mesotrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	7/17/2017
	Springs (including flushes)	Favourable Maintained	7/23/2008
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/29/2016
Loch Vaa	Beetles	Favourable Maintained	07/12/2010
	Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	6/30/2007
	Slavonian grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	6/30/2007
Monadhliath	Black mountain moth (<i>Glacies coracina</i>)	Favourable Maintained	6/26/2014
	Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	11/03/2004
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/19/2008
	Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	07/01/2011
	Upland assemblage	Favourable Maintained	11/03/2004
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Declining	08/06/2015
Morrone Birkwood	Alpine heath	Favourable Maintained	06/03/2014
	Basin fen	Favourable Maintained	08/02/2013
	Bryophyte assemblage	Favourable Maintained	09/06/2013
	Fungi assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/18/2012
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Declining	6/25/2013
	Juniper scrub	Unfavourable No change	10/11/2009
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	06/04/2014

	Rocky slopes (includes inland cliff, rocky outcrops, chasmophytic vegetation)		
	Spring-head, rill and flush	Favourable Maintained	06/03/2014
	Subalpine calcareous grassland	Favourable Maintained	06/03/2014
	Subalpine flushes	Favourable Declining	06/03/2014
	Upland birch woodland	Unfavourable No change	11/12/2009
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Recovered	10/10/2014
Morven and Mullachdubh	Alpine heath	Favourable Maintained	8/16/2000
	Blanket bog	Favourable Maintained	11/11/2012
	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Declining	6/13/2013
	Moorland juniper	Favourable Maintained	09/04/2008
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	6/23/2017
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	08/04/2015
Muir of Dinnet	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2018
	Dragonfly assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/31/2012
	Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding	Unfavourable No change	12/10/2012
	Hydromorphological mire range	Favourable Maintained	04/11/2014
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/31/2012
	Lowland dry heath	Unfavourable Recovering	7/30/2013
	Lowland wet heath	Unfavourable Declining	7/24/2015
	Oligo-mesotrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	6/25/2004
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	6/30/2000
North Rothiemurchus Pinewood	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/17/2014
	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	4/30/2010

	Crested tit (<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/17/2005
	Fungi assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/02/2014
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/20/2013
	Lichen assemblage	Favourable Declining	8/21/2010
	Native pinewood	Unfavourable Recovering	5/22/2008
	Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	6/20/2010
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	06/11/2003
	Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	2/21/2012
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/23/2010
Northern Corries, Cairngorms	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	07/11/2013
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	6/26/2003
	Scrub	Favourable Maintained	7/28/2008
	Upland assemblage	Unfavourable No change	07/12/2015
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	10/05/2006
Pass of Killiecrankie	Fly assemblage	Favourable Maintained	6/28/2015
	Upland oak woodland	Unfavourable No change	9/28/2006
Red Craig	Caledonian Igneous	Favourable Maintained	7/20/2001
River Feshie	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	08/07/2015
	Quaternary of Scotland	Favourable Maintained	3/20/2015
River Spey	Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Unfavourable Recovering	10/20/2004
	Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable Declining	9/30/2014
	Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2011
	Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)	Favourable Maintained	11/07/2011
	Arctic charr (<i>Salvelinus alpinus</i>)	Unfavourable Declining	7/14/2017

River Spey - Insh Marshes	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2001
	Flood-plain fen	Favourable Maintained	08/10/2014
	Invertebrate assemblage	Favourable Maintained	8/20/2013
	Mesotrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	7/30/2010
	Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	09/07/2009
	Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Declining	8/17/2011
	Vascular plant assemblage	Favourable Maintained	08/10/2014
	Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/28/2010

There are 55 SSSIs within or overlapping the National Park. Of these, 47 have biological notifiable features, covering an area of around 1,120 km² (or 25% of the National Park's area). Of these, 34 have at least one notified feature that is in unfavourable condition. Four SSSIs have no features in favourable condition.

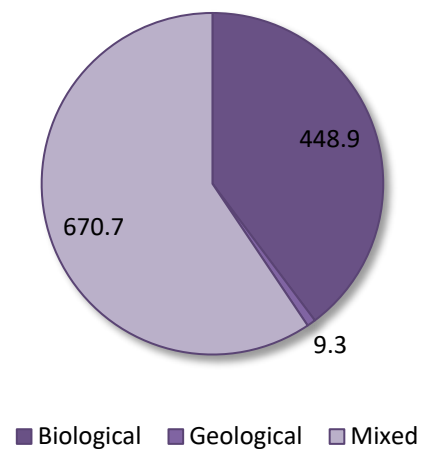


Figure 80 Area (km²) covered by the three types of SSSI within the Cairngorms National Park.

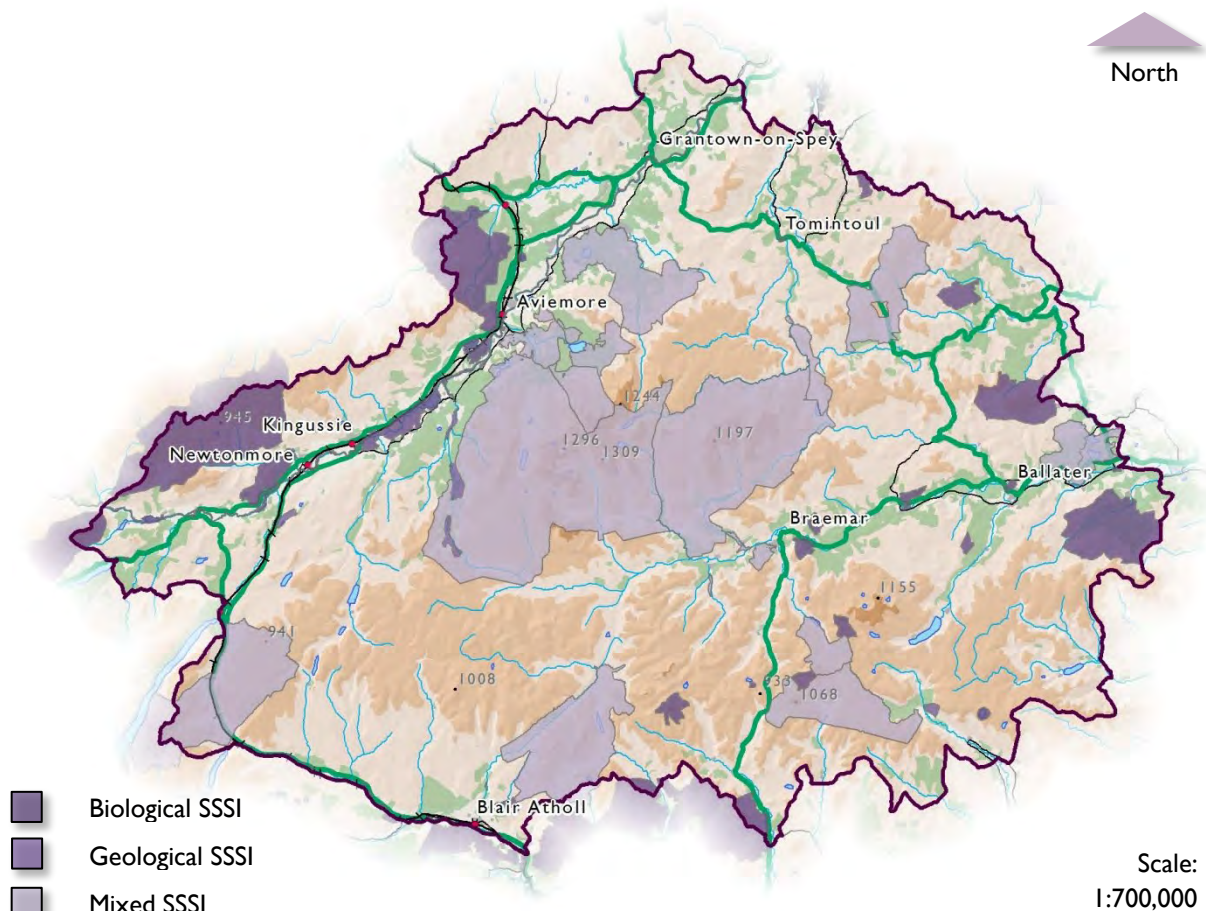


Figure 81 Sites of Special Scientific Interest by type within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park Authority.

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International Designations

European sites

Nearly half of the Cairngorms National Park is designated as European sites, which form part of a wider network of such sites that are considered the best for wildlife in Europe.

There are two types of European site within the National Park; Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

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provides information on SACs and SPAs both within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park. Sites are listed with their qualifying interests, the latest assessment of their respective conditions and when the assessments took place.

A simple colour scheme has been used to highlight the condition of qualifying interests, the key to which is provided below:

Features in favourable maintained condition
Features that are unfavourable but recovering or favourable but declining condition
Features that are unfavourable no change or declining condition
Features that have not been monitored

Table 20 Condition of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas within the Cairngorms National Park (data provided by NatureScot 19 November 2020).

SAC/SPA	Site Name	Feature Name	Assessed Condition	Assessed Visit Date
SAC	Ballochbuie	Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	05/05/2006
		Bog woodland	Unfavourable No change	08/02/2011
		Caledonian forest	Unfavourable No change	08/08/2011
		Dry heaths	Unfavourable No change	11/01/2006
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Maintained	11/12/2011
		Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable Maintained	11/01/2006
		Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable Maintained	11/23/2004
		Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable No change	11/01/2006
SAC	Beinn a' Ghlo	Acidic scree	Favourable Maintained	07/03/2017
		Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable Maintained	07/03/2017
		Base-rich fens	Favourable Recovered	8/26/2015
		Blanket bog	Favourable Recovered	7/22/2010
		Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Unfavourable Recovering	7/22/2010
		Dry heaths	Unfavourable No change	8/19/2004
		Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>)	Favourable Maintained	07/03/2017

		Hard-water springs depositing lime	Unfavourable Recovering	8/26/2015
		High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Favourable Maintained	07/03/2017
		Montane acid grasslands	Favourable Recovered	07/03/2017
		Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable Maintained	07/03/2017
		Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable Maintained	07/03/2017
		Round-mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo genesii</i>)	Favourable Maintained	6/19/2017
		Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Favourable Recovered	7/22/2010
SAC	Caenlochan	Acidic scree	Unfavourable Declining	8/30/2012
		Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2006
		Base-rich fens	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2006
		Base-rich scree	Favourable Maintained	7/16/2006
		Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2006
		Dry heaths	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2006
		Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable Maintained	7/16/2006

		High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Favourable Recovered	9/18/2012
		Montane acid grasslands	Unfavourable No change	9/18/2012
		Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable No change	8/23/2012
		Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable Maintained	7/16/2006
		Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2012
		Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Unfavourable No change	7/16/2006
		Tall herb communities	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2012
SAC	Cairngorms	Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds	Favourable Maintained	09/09/2014
		Acidic scree	Favourable Maintained	09/08/2015
		Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable No change	09/08/2015
		Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	04/03/2007
		Bog woodland	Favourable Maintained	09/05/2002
		Caledonian forest	Unfavourable Recovering	10/05/2015

	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable Maintained	6/23/2010
	Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Unfavourable No change	04/03/2007
	Dry heaths	Unfavourable No change	04/03/2007
	Green shield-moss (<i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>)	Favourable Maintained	05/02/2006
	Hard-water springs depositing lime	Favourable Maintained	04/03/2007
	High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Unfavourable No change	10/15/2006
	Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable Maintained	04/03/2007
	Montane acid grasslands	Unfavourable Recovering	7/14/2006
	Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable No change	04/03/2007
	Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Unfavourable Declining	9/22/2011
	Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable Maintained	04/03/2007
	Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Unfavourable No change	04/03/2007

		Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Unfavourable No change	04/03/2007
		Tall herb communities	Favourable Maintained	9/26/2013
		Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Favourable Maintained	8/20/2015
		Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable No change	09/08/2015
SAC	Coyles of Muick	Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable Maintained	08/03/2006
SAC	Creag Meagaidh	Acidic scree	Favourable Recovered	9/29/2015
		Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable Recovered	10/02/2015
		Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	9/30/2005
		Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable Maintained	06/10/2010
		Dry heaths	Unfavourable No change	9/30/2005
		Montane acid grasslands	Favourable Maintained	10/02/2015
		Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable No change	09/01/2005
		Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable Maintained	10/02/2015

		Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable Maintained	10/02/2015
		Tall herb communities	Favourable Recovered	9/29/2015
		Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable No change	9/30/2005
SAC	Creag nan Gamhainn	Hard-water springs depositing lime	Favourable Maintained	6/26/2013
SAC	Dinnet Oakwood	Western acidic oak woodland	Favourable Maintained	07/12/2002
SAC	Drumochter Hills	Acidic scree	Favourable Maintained	07/06/2006
		Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable No change	07/05/2006
		Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	07/06/2006
		Dry heaths	Unfavourable No change	07/06/2006
		Montane acid grasslands	Favourable Recovered	08/08/2013
		Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable Declining	08/08/2013
		Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable Maintained	08/08/2013
		Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Unfavourable No change	08/08/2013
		Tall herb communities	Unfavourable Recovering	08/08/2013
		Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable No change	07/06/2006
SAC	Glen Tanar	Blanket bog	Unfavourable Declining	6/19/2017

		Caledonian forest	Favourable Maintained	04/08/2010
		Dry heaths	Favourable Maintained	10/23/2003
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Maintained	9/23/2012
		Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Favourable Maintained	11/21/2009
SAC	Green Hill of Strathdon	Dry heaths	Favourable Maintained	8/15/2008
		Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable Maintained	8/15/2008
		Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable Maintained	08/02/2002
SAC	Insh Marshes	Alder woodland on floodplains	Unfavourable Recovering	5/19/2009
		Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable Maintained	7/30/2010
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Declining	8/17/2011
		Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Favourable Maintained	10/04/2002
SAC	Kinveachy Forest	Bog woodland	Unfavourable Recovering	6/24/2008
		Caledonian forest	Unfavourable Recovering	6/24/2008
SAC	Ladder Hills	Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable Maintained	09/03/1999
		Blanket bog	Favourable Maintained	09/03/1999

		Dry heaths	Unfavourable Declining	04/09/2007
SAC	Monadhliath	Blanket bog	Unfavourable No change	9/23/2004
SAC	Morrone Birkwood	Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable Maintained	07/01/2008
		Base-rich fens	Favourable Declining	06/03/2014
		Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Favourable Maintained	06/03/2014
		Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>)	Unfavourable Declining	6/30/2013
		Hard-water springs depositing lime	Favourable Maintained	06/03/2014
		High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Favourable Declining	06/03/2014
		Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Unfavourable No change	10/11/2009
SAC	Morven and Mullachdubh	Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable Maintained	1/25/2005
SAC	Muir of Dinnet	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable Maintained	6/25/2004
		Degraded raised bog	Favourable Maintained	6/30/2000

		Dry heaths	Unfavourable Declining	2/16/2001
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Maintained	10/04/2012
		Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Favourable Maintained	09/10/2014
SAC	River Dee	Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Favourable Maintained	7/21/2011
		Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable No change	08/07/2003
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Declining	10/06/2012
SAC	River South Esk	Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Unfavourable Recovering	7/29/2011
		Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable No change	9/13/2009
SAC	River Spey	Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Unfavourable Recovering	09/04/2011
		Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable Declining	9/30/2014
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Maintained	9/18/2011
		Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)	Favourable Maintained	09/07/2011

SAC	River Tay	Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Favourable Maintained	9/19/2011
		Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>)	Favourable Maintained	11/30/2007
		Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable Maintained	08/12/2009
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable Maintained	09/03/2012
		River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>)	Favourable Maintained	11/30/2007
		Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)	Favourable Maintained	11/30/2007
SAC	The Maim	Dry heaths	Favourable Recovered	06/11/2013
SAC	Tulach Hill and Glen Fender Meadows	Base-rich fens	Favourable Recovered	8/24/2010
		Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Favourable Recovered	8/24/2010
		Dry heaths	Favourable Recovered	8/24/2010
		Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>)	Favourable Maintained	09/02/2004
		Limestone pavements	Favourable Maintained	8/24/2010

		Round-mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo genesii</i>)	Favourable Maintained	8/24/2010
SPA	Abernethy Forest	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	4/28/2009
		Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	5/31/2007
		Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/28/2012
SPA	Anagach Woods	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	4/29/2015
SPA	Ballochbuie	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	4/14/2014
		Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	03/01/2015
SPA	Caenlochan	Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	07/04/2011
		Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	12/04/2009
SPA	Cairngorms	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	4/25/2011
		Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	07/01/2011
		Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2009

		Merlin (Falco columbarius), breeding		
		Osprey (Pandion haliaetus), breeding	Favourable Maintained	06/01/2006
		Peregrine (Falco peregrinus), breeding	Favourable Maintained	6/30/2002
		Scottish crossbill (Loxia scotica), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/14/2012
SPA	Cairngorms Massif	Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), breeding	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2015
SPA	Craigmore Wood	Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	4/20/2015
SPA	Creag Meagaidh	Dotterel (Charadrius morinellus), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	07/01/2011
SPA	Drumochter Hills	Dotterel (Charadrius morinellus), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	07/04/2011
		Merlin (Falco columbarius), breeding	Unfavourable No change	8/31/2004
SPA	Forest of Clunie	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	05/05/2015
		Merlin (Falco columbarius), breeding	Unfavourable No change	06/01/2015
		Osprey (Pandion haliaetus), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	06/01/2015

		Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	06/01/2015
SPA	Glen Tanar	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	4/18/2011
		Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	7/19/2010
		Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	10/13/2010
		Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/23/2012
SPA	Kinveachy Forest	Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	5/15/2008
		Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/27/2012
SPA	Loch Vaa	Slavonian grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	6/30/2007
SPA	Lochnagar	Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	07/04/2011
SPA	Muir of Dinnet	Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding	Unfavourable Declining	11/05/2010
		Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding	Unfavourable No change	12/01/2012
SPA	River Spey - Insh Marshes	Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained	2/22/2010

	Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	09/07/2009
	Spotted crane (<i>Porzana porzana</i>), breeding	Favourable Maintained	12/31/2000
	Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained	12/31/2000
	Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), breeding	Unfavourable No change	5/30/2009
	Wood sandpiper (<i>Tringa glareola</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Declining	12/31/2000

There are over 20 SACs within or overlapping the National Park (**Figure 82**), covering an area of around 1,063 km² (or 24% of the National Park's area). Of these, 2 SACs, and 7 SPAs have no qualifying interests in favourable condition.

Around 53% of the land area protected as an SAC falls within the Cairngorms SAC, which is the third largest in Scotland.

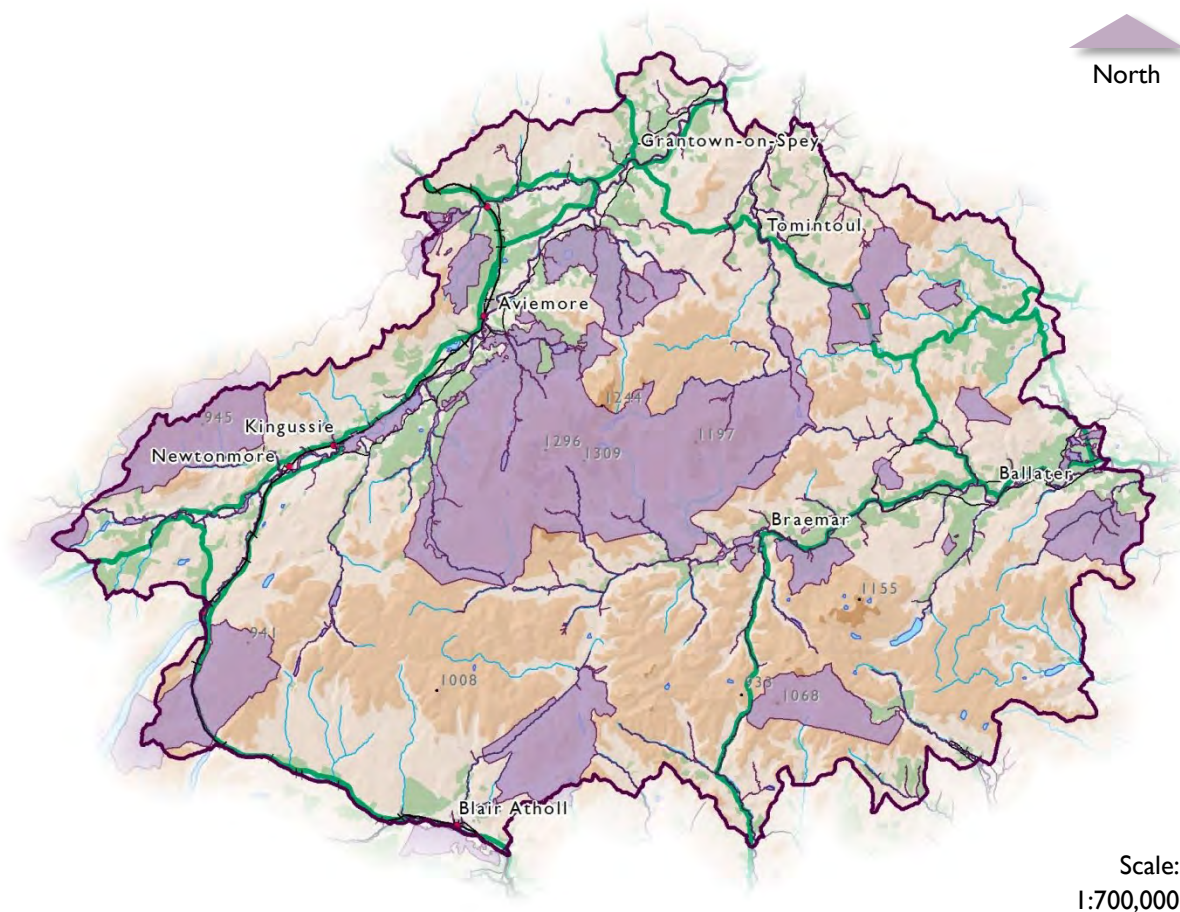


Figure 82 Special Areas of Conservation within the Cairngorms National Park.

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There are 16 SPAs within or overlapping the National Park (**Figure 83**), covering an area of around 2,013 km² (or 45% of the National Park's area).

With around 1,733 km² of its 1,875 km² within the National Park, The Cairngorms Massif SPA contributes 68% of the land protected as an SPA within the National Park. It is the largest in Scotland.

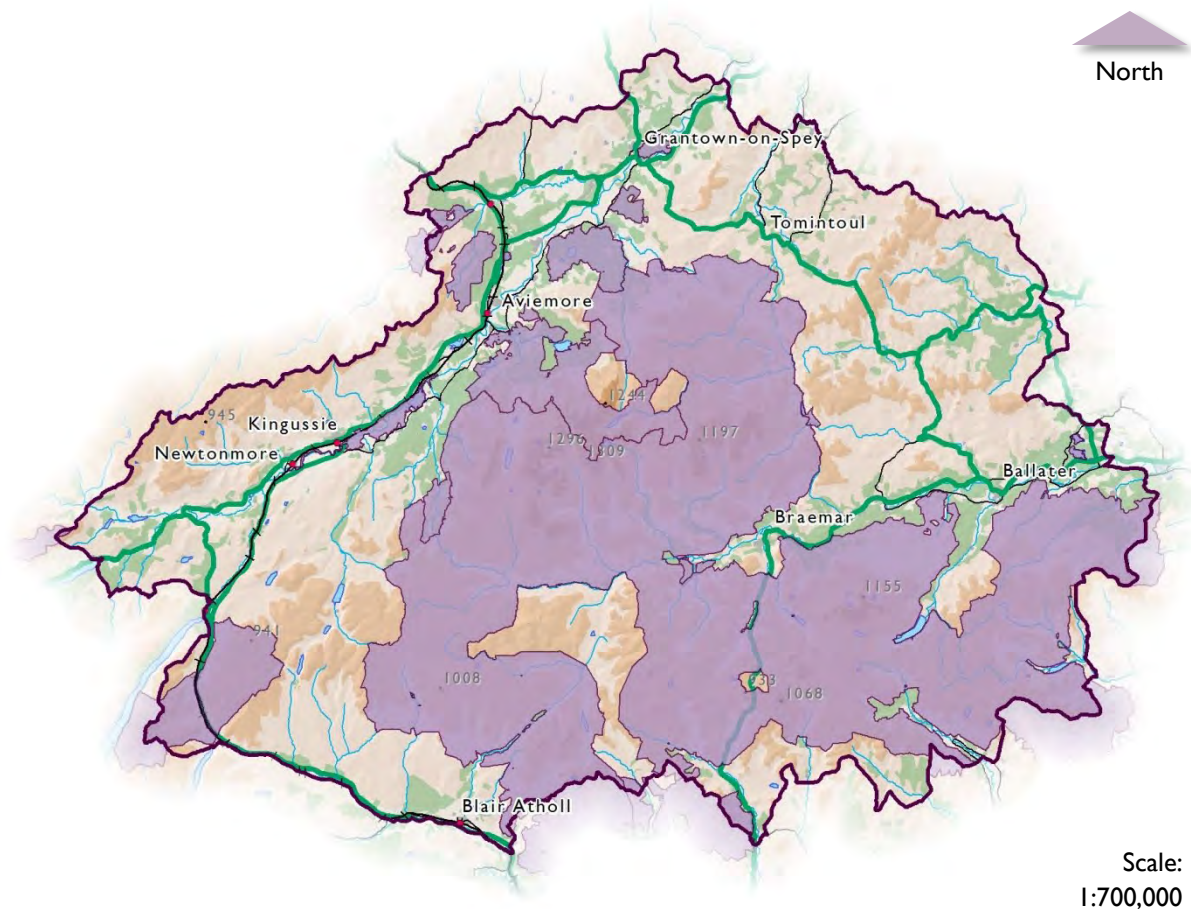


Figure 83 Special Protection Areas within the Cairngorms National Park.

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Ramsar Convention

The National Park is also home to three wetlands of international importance that have been designated under the Ramsar Convention (**Table 21** and **Figure 84**), all wholly located within the Cairngorms National Park. The designation recognises the fundamental ecological functions of these areas as well as their economic, cultural, scientific, and recreational value. They are all also part of other sites protected for nature conservation.

Table 21 Condition of Ramsar Convention Sites within the Cairngorms National Park (data provided by NatureScot 19 November 2020).

Site Name	Feature Name	Assessed Condition	Assessed Visit Date
Cairngorm Lochs	Oligotrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	6/23/2010
Muir of Dinnet	Greylag goose (Anser anser), non-breeding	Unfavourable No change	12/10/2012
River Spey - Insh Marshes	Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable Maintained	7/31/2001
	Flood-plain fen	Favourable Maintained	08/10/2014
	Mesotrophic loch	Favourable Maintained	7/30/2010
	Trophic range river/stream	Unfavourable No change	8/17/2017
	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained	3/28/2010

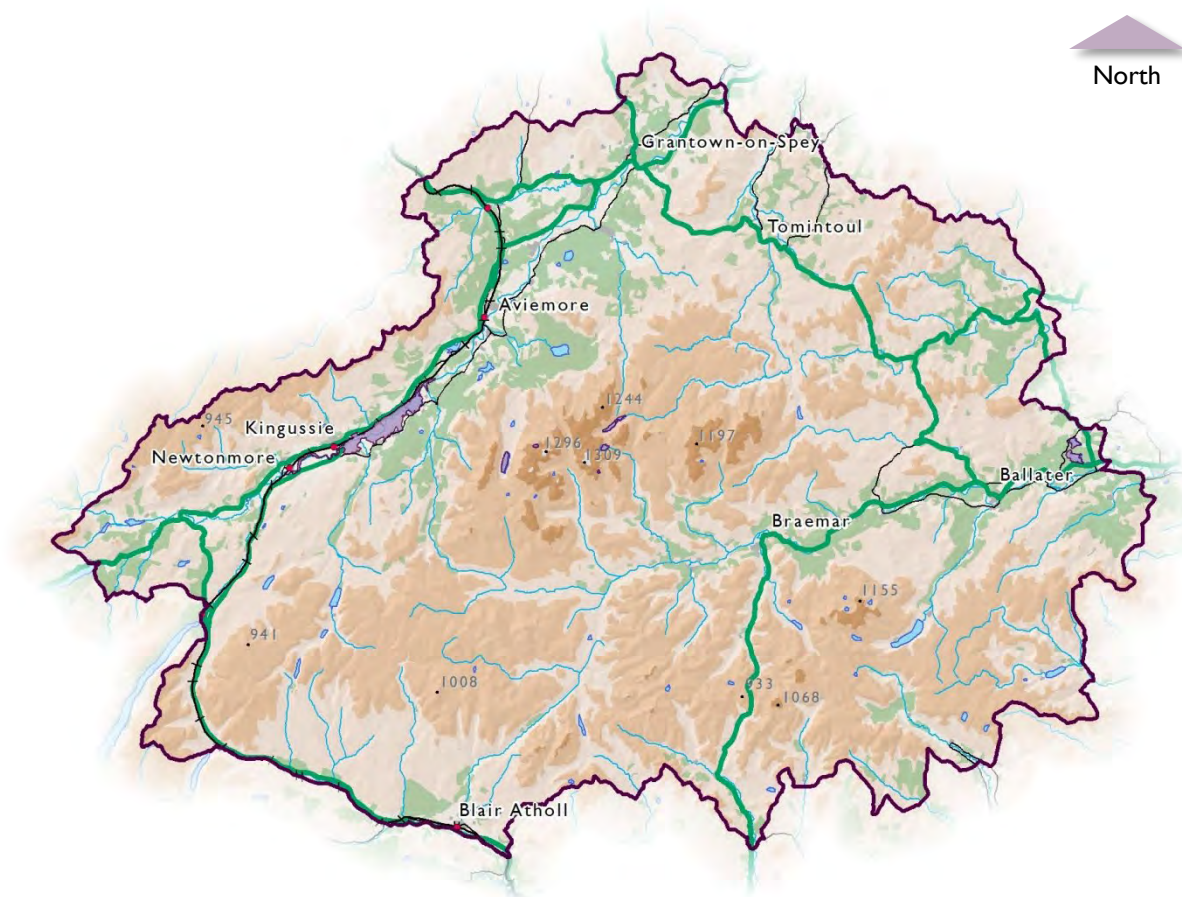


Figure 84 Ramsar Sites within the Cairngorms National Park.

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Non-Statutory Designations

The National Park contains a number of non-statutory designations (**Figure 85**). The RSPB runs 2 Nature Reserves within the National Park namely, Loch Garten and Insh Marshes. Both encompass areas of statutory designation, with the former covering most of Abernethy NNR and SPA and the latter, Inch Marshes NNR and SPA.

Loch Garten is best known for its osprey, but is also an important site for capercaillie, crested tit, goldeneye and Scottish crossbill. Insh Marshes is home to an important assemblage of wetland birds, including curlew, lapwing, redshank, snipe and whooper swan.

The National Park contains one Biogenetic Reserve at Muir of Dinnet. This is part of a European network of 'living laboratories' representative of various types of natural environment found in Europe. The purpose of Biogenetic Reserves has now been overtaken by that of Scotland's national nature reserve network and so the designation is rarely referred to.

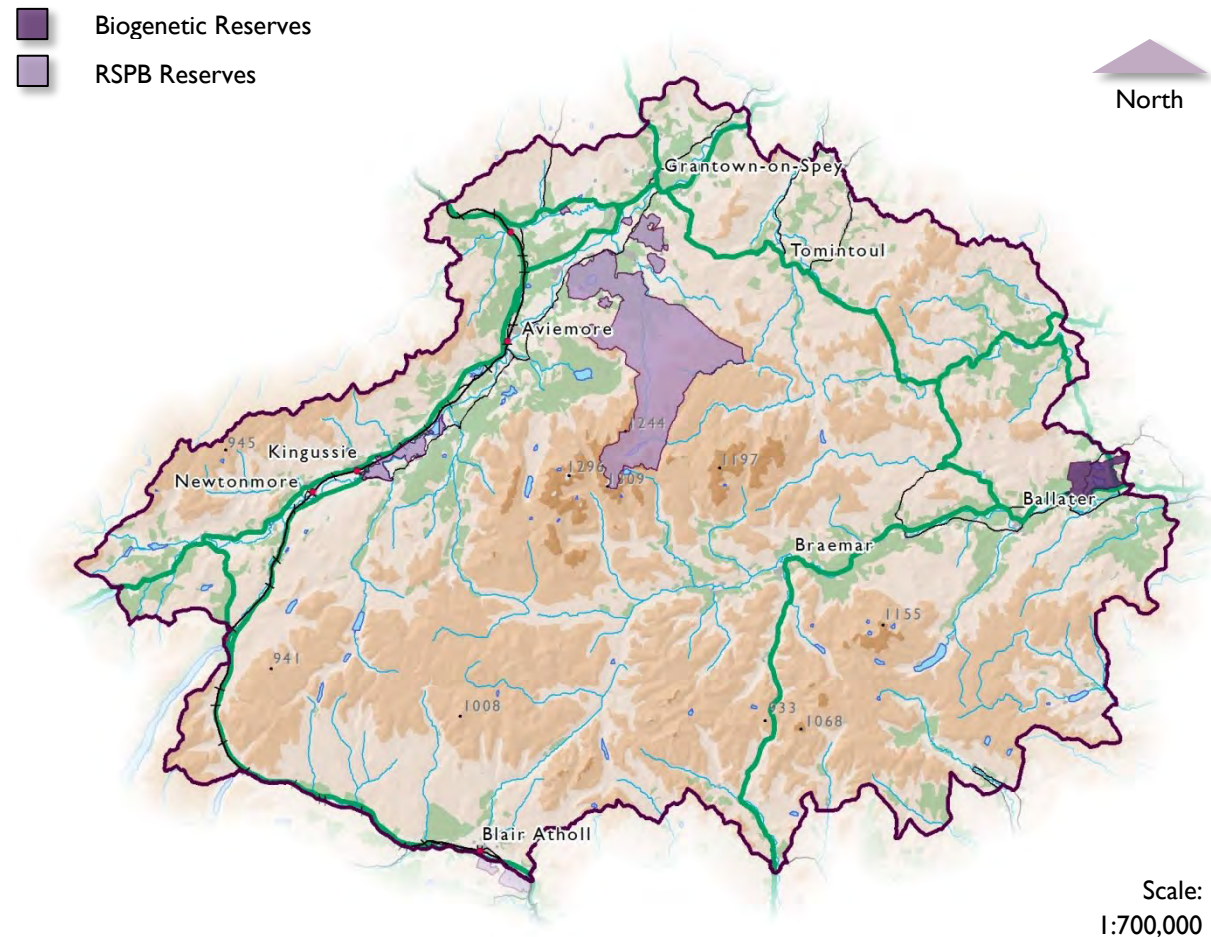


Figure 85 RSBP and Biogenetic Reserves in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Important Species and Habitats

There are around 1,200 species considered to be important for nature conservation within the National Park. Of these, 26 have been identified for priority action within the Cairngorms Nature Action Plan (CNAP) 2013-2018.

The CNAP also identifies the National Park's threatened habitats, which are broader than those afforded special protection as designated sites. For the purpose of discussing them and the priority species that depend on them, they are described here under four headings, namely:

- Woodlands (p. 229),
- Freshwater, Wetlands & Wet Grassland (p.240),
- Uplands (p. 246), and
- Lowlands (p. 249).

Woodlands

The Cairngorms National Park contains the most extensive tracts of Caledonian forest in Britain, comprising pine, juniper and broadleaved species (**Figure 86**). It also

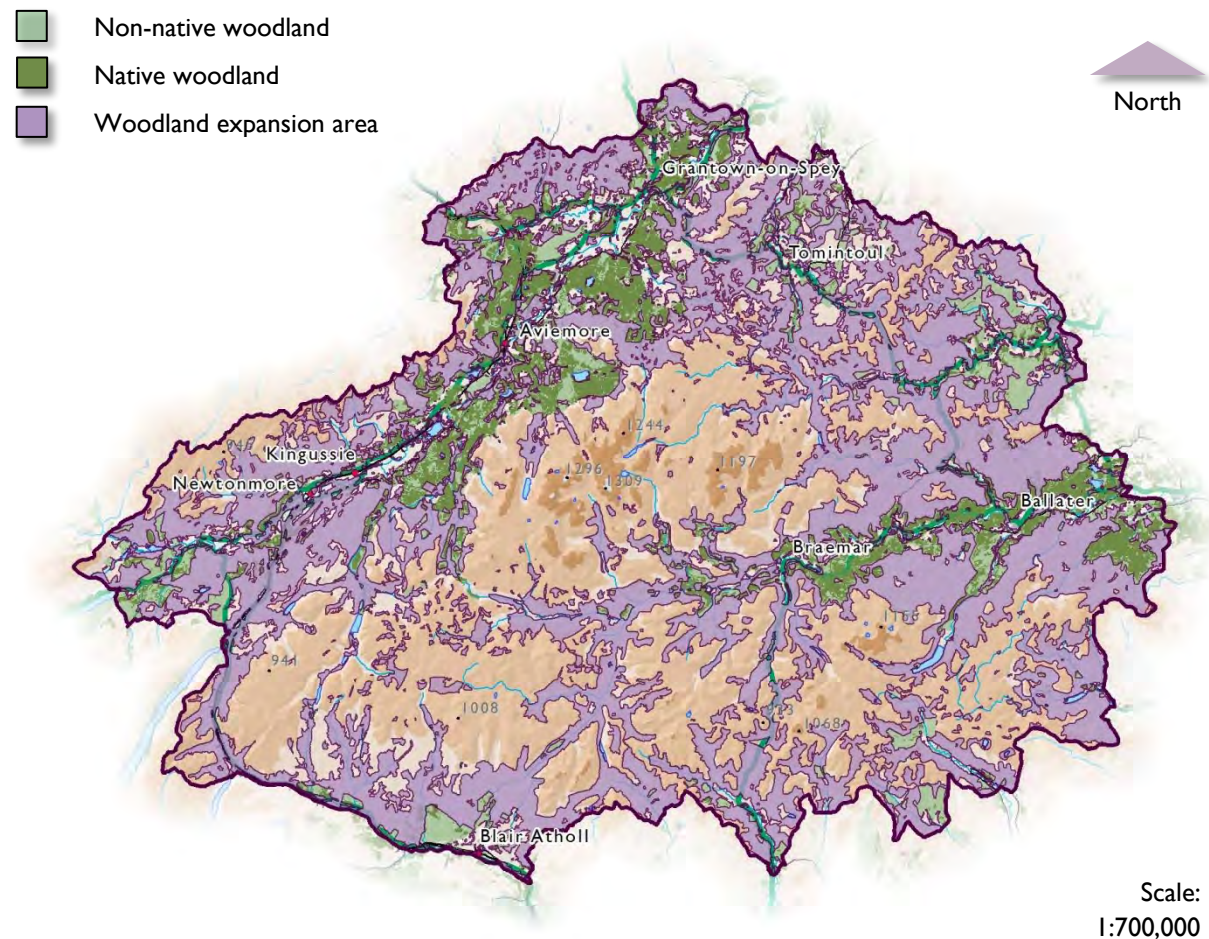


Figure 86 Areas of woodland and woodland expansion in the Cairngorms National Park.

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contains the best examples in Scotland of bog woodland, montane willow scrub and stands of aspen. Native tree species comprise around 79% of these woodlands, representing a quarter of the entire Scottish native woodland resource.

Strathspey, Strath Avon, Glenlivet, Donside, Deeside and the Angus Glens combined contain an extensive, varied and predominantly native network of forest habitats. This is one of the most valuable ecological networks in Britain and one of the most widely recognised special qualities of the Cairngorms National Park.

Key woodland types found within the National Park are:

- Caledonian Pinewoods,
- Conifer Plantations,
- Birch & Aspen Woodland,
- Wet & Riparian woodland, and
- Upland Oak.

The native pine woodlands of predominantly self-sown Scots pine are the western-most link to the extensive boreal forest which formerly covered a much

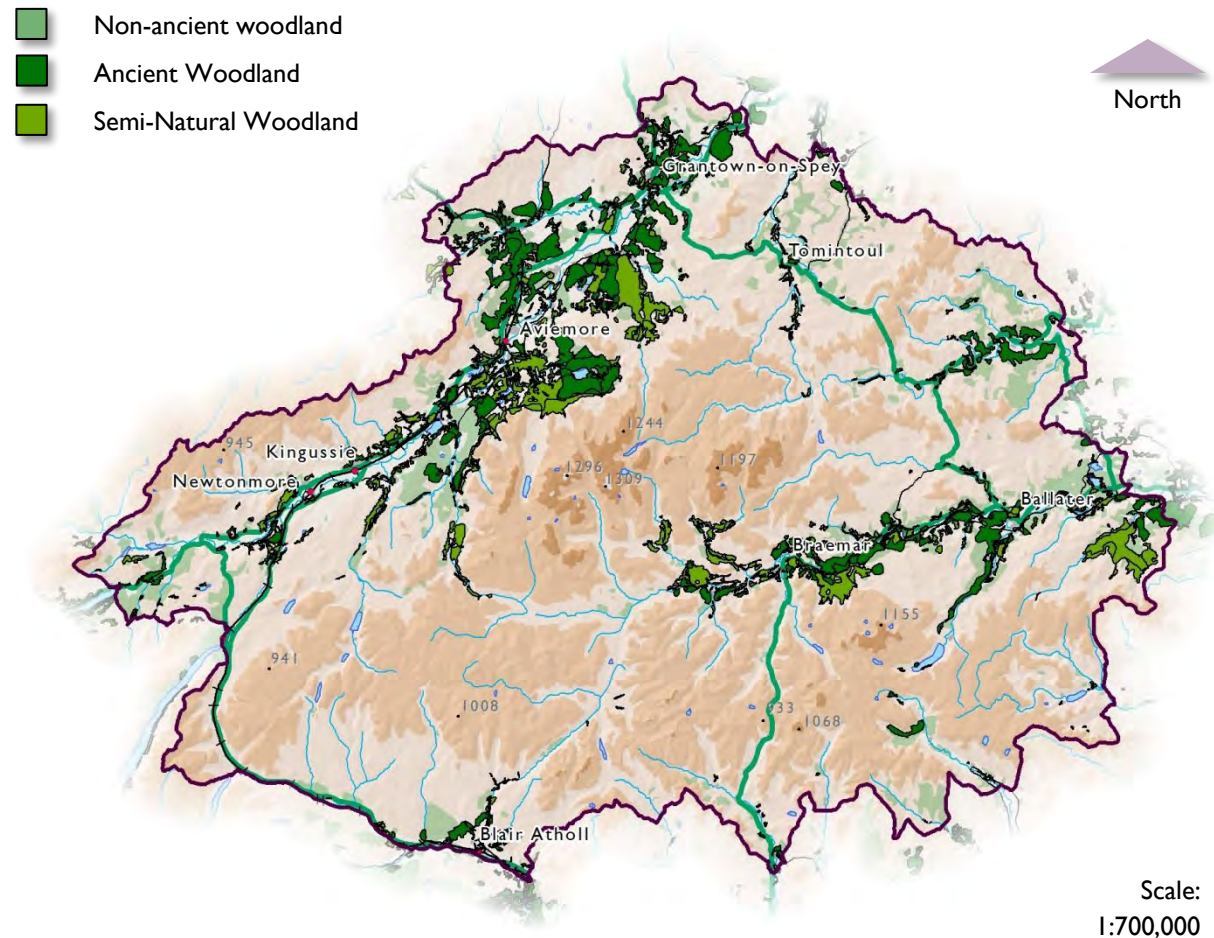


Figure 87 Areas of ancient woodland in the Cairngorms National Park.

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larger area of northern Europe. Aspen can tolerate a wide range of soil types and climatic conditions and it is likely that its present distribution is due to the effects of deforestation.

Around 340 km² of the National Park's woodlands are also identified as being ancient according to NatureScot's Ancient Woodland Inventory (**Figure 87**). Around 160 km² of this has also been identified as being semi-natural. Ancient woodland is defined as land that is currently wooded and has been continually wooded, at least since 1750. This type of woodland has important biodiversity and cultural values by virtue of its antiquity.

Over the last 25 years there has been an increased awareness of the multiple benefits that native woodland can deliver and an upsurge in action to restore and expand native woods. Between 2013 and 2015 890ha of new native woodland has been created in the National Park, while work is underway to identify areas of with future potential (**Figure 86** and **Figure 88**). Of

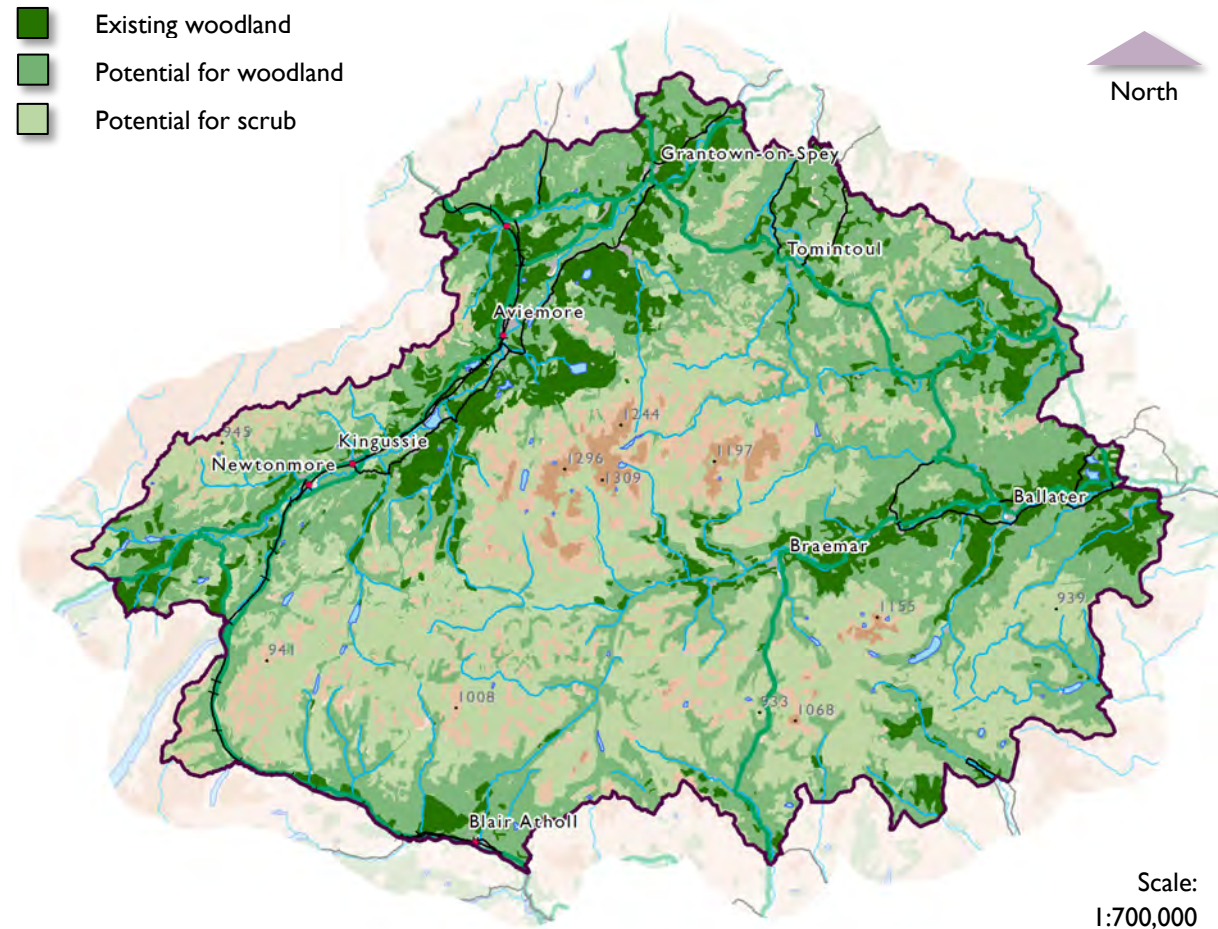


Figure 88 Existing woodland and land with potential for woodland and scrub in the Cairngorms National Park.

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the newly created woodland, around 704ha is adjacent to the existing resource.

However, Lack of regeneration, poor structural diversity and grazing pressure has resulted in some woodlands suffering from reduced biodiversity value.

Improved connectivity through woodland expansion combined with good management is crucial to enhance habitat that supports species of high conservation value. The CNPA Woodlands Expansion programme (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2008) actively promotes this and in combination with the Cairngorms Deer Management Framework (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2011) aims to ensure greater connectivity and management.

Table 21 provides the main issues affecting woodlands within the National Park together with actions required to address them.

Table 22 Issues affecting woodlands in the Cairngorms National Park.

Habitat	Issue	Action Required
Caledonian Pinewood	At threat from habitat loss, lack of regeneration, limited deadwood and poor structural diversity. Past management has reduced species diversity in many of the remaining woods.	➤ Improving the existing resource and encouraging expansion into areas for habitat connectivity and resilience which will mitigate against further loss and also enhance the habitat to halt the decline and encourage growth.
Conifer Plantations	Mixture of Scots Pine, Sitka and Norwegian Spruce, Lodgepole pine and Douglas fir and larch. Many are of single species and single age and are of limited value for biodiversity. Conifer plantations make up 50% of the woodland resource and a third of these are on Ancient Woodland Sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote the restoration of Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites. ➤ Encourage and provide advice and guidance on continuous forest cover via workshops, demonstration projects and events. ➤ Promote stand restructuring and thinning to create a mosaic of different densities and structures.
Birch & Aspen Woodland	Aspen dominated woodland is unique to the Cairngorms National Park, the stands are small and total less than 350ha concentrated in Strathspey and Deeside.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Encourage and advise land managers to manage birch woodlands for aspen enhancement. ➤ Review grazing management in high nature value areas to encourage vigorous birch and aspen regeneration and a diverse field layer.
Wet & riparian woodland	Fragments of ancient floodplain woodlands are rare in the UK, the Cairngorms National Park has some of the best, especially in Strathspey and Deeside.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify sites for creating and expanding bog and wet woodland. ➤ Block drains, re-wet areas and remove non-native conifers.
Upland oak	Lack of regeneration, poor structural diversity and grazing pressure has reduced their biodiversity value. Most of the oak woodlands are found in Deeside	➤ Encourage better land management and reduce grazing pressures.

Key Woodland Species

The CNAP species which have been selected for targeted action and are dependent on woodland habitat are listed in **Table 23**.

Working in partnership, the CNPA is involved in projects aimed directly at improving the status of woodland habitats and associated species, some of which were listed in **Table 23**, within the Cairngorms National Park, these include:

Capercaillie Framework

Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) populations in Scotland have declined significantly from an estimated 20,000 birds in 1970 to around 1,285 at the most recent national winter survey in 2009/10 (Ewing *et al.* 2012).

The Cairngorms National Park holds a significant proportion of the national population – at least 75% of the national number of lekking males, with the majority in Strathspey (Eaton *et al.* 2007; Poole, 2010) (**Figure 89**, p. 214).

Table 23 Woodland species selected for targeted action in CNAP (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2013).

Species	Status in the CNP
Capercaillie <i>Tetrao urogallus</i>	Capercaillie are found almost exclusively in Caledonian Pine Forest. Including Anagach, Rothiemurchas and Abernethy woods. Capercaillie chicks feed on moth caterpillars feeding on blueberry plants, adults and older chicks feed on leaves and berries, during winter they feed on pine needles.
Scottish Wildcat <i>Felix sylvestris</i>	The Scottish wildcat is a rare, elusive and largely nocturnal species confined to the most thinly populated parts of the UK. main threats to the survival of the species in Scotland were: hybridisation with feral or domestic cats, being inadvertently killed during feral cat control operation and disease
One-flowered Wintergreen <i>Moneses uniflora</i>	This plant used to be called St Olaf's Candlestick. It has a single nodding white flower at the top of a stem, and a rosette of leaves at the base. Key threats are the loss of the old Caledonian Forest and the harvesting of commercial forests.
Twinflower <i>Linnea borealis</i>	Twinflower is an Arctic-alpine flower which is a relic of the ice age it has a stronghold in Strathspey. It is dependent on the open canopy of Caledonian Pinewoods.
Green Shield-moss <i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>	The Green Shield-moss is a rare and endangered species which grows on decaying wood. The loss of woodland cover over the centuries and, more recently, the intense management of woodland areas has led to a significant loss of habitat for this bryophyte species.
Pine hoverfly <i>Blera fallax</i>	The Pine Hoverfly is found in only two locations in the UK in Strathspey. It needs rotten tree stumps that are more than 40 cm in diameter to breed. The lack of these large stumps in pinewoods – especially stumps with the necessary rot conditions – has been the cause of the decline.

Although capercaillie numbers have held up in Strathspey in recent years, the population is now extremely vulnerable elsewhere. Capercaillie persist in other areas (Deeside, Donside, Easter Ross, Moray and Perthshire) but these populations are smaller and more fragmented.

The Strathspey capercaillie population is crucial to the long-term survival of the species in the UK. The Capercaillie Framework (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2015) aims to improve conservation for Capercaillie by the introduction of landscape scale measures to target the main threats of disturbance, predation, collision with deer fences, unsympathetic woodland management, habitat loss and fragmentation.

Increased disturbance resulting from development and recreation can have a significant effect on Capercaillie usage of habitat for example Capercaillie have been shown to avoid habitat close to tracks,

Species	Status in the CNP
Pearl-bordered fritillary <i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	Changes in woodland management over recent years have led to the decline of the species. Woodland practices such as coppicing and thinning are in decline, and many areas have been planted with conifers. Woodland rides and clearings have become increasingly shady and overgrown. Bracken habitats are no longer managed through grazing
Dark bordered beauty <i>Epione vespertaria</i>	A small yellow- orange moth with brown bordered wings. The caterpillar feeds on young suckering aspen, which requires particular levels of grazing. Only found in a handful of locations in the CNP.
Scarlet splash fungus <i>Cytidia salicina</i>	This fungus appears as a bright red splash on the underside of dead willow branches, especially those lying close to the ground. It has only been recorded 14 times in Scotland most of these records are in the CNP,
Kentish Glory <i>Endronis versicolora</i>	Kentish Glory, a large day flying moth is found in open birch woodlands. Both sexes are brown with white markings on the forewings.
Wood Ants	There are four species considered for action: <i>Formica aquilonia</i> , <i>F. lugubis</i> , <i>F. exsecta</i> and <i>Formicoxenus nitidulus</i> . They perform a number of important roles in the forest ecosystem, earning them the status of “keystone” species, these are species which play critical roles in the structure of their ecological community. Changes in woodland management, deforestation, inappropriate afforestation, urban expansion, human disturbance and agriculture are all linked to the loss of suitable habitat for woodland ant species.

which may reduce overall carrying capacity in forests with a high density of tracks (Rosner *et al.* 2013). A study at Abernethy forest estimated that 21-41% of suitable woodland habitat could be lost due to avoidance of tracks (Summers *et al.* 2007). To ensure these factors are considered the framework integrates habitat management, recreation and development plans as outlined in the Cairngorms Nature Strategy (2012-2018), Active Cairngorms (2015) and the Local Development Plan (2015) and suggests mitigation packages be developed to ensure no impact on Capercaillie.

Red Squirrel

The Cairngorms National Park is one of the last strongholds for red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) in the UK. Grey squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*) are larger than the native reds and were introduced to the UK from America and Canada in the early 1900's. They pose a serious threat to the survival of the red squirrel population through transmission of the deadly squirrel pox

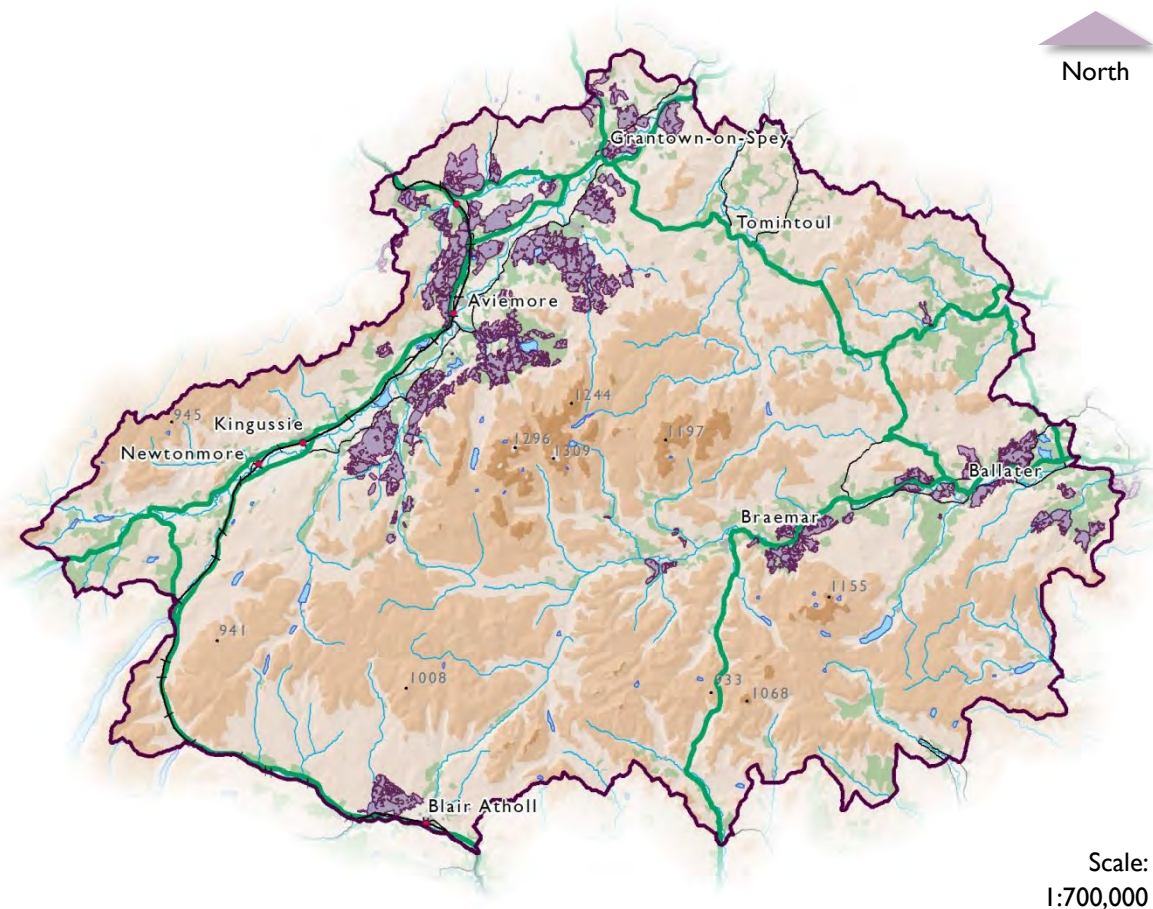


Figure 89 Areas where capercaillie have been sighted in the Cairngorms National Park since 2007.

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virus that the grey squirrel carries. Grey squirrels are occasionally seen moving up the River Dee from Aboyne or moving up the River Garry from Pitlochry. The Red Squirrels of the Highlands Project is working to monitor and conserve red squirrels in the National Park.

Wildcat - Tiger of the Highlands

The project raised awareness of the wildcat's (*Felis silvestris*) plight using a campaign branded 'Highland Tiger'. It worked with a range of partners and interest groups to safeguard surviving Scottish wildcat populations and create favourable conditions for the species to thrive in the future. Part of the project was aimed at assisting gamekeepers to confidently identify wildcats to ensure they are not inadvertently culled through otherwise legal predator control activities. The project also worked with vets and cat welfare charities to encourage responsible cat ownership and the expansion of feral cat trapping and neutering. NatureScot have produced the Scottish Wildcat Conservation Action Plan 2013-2018, which

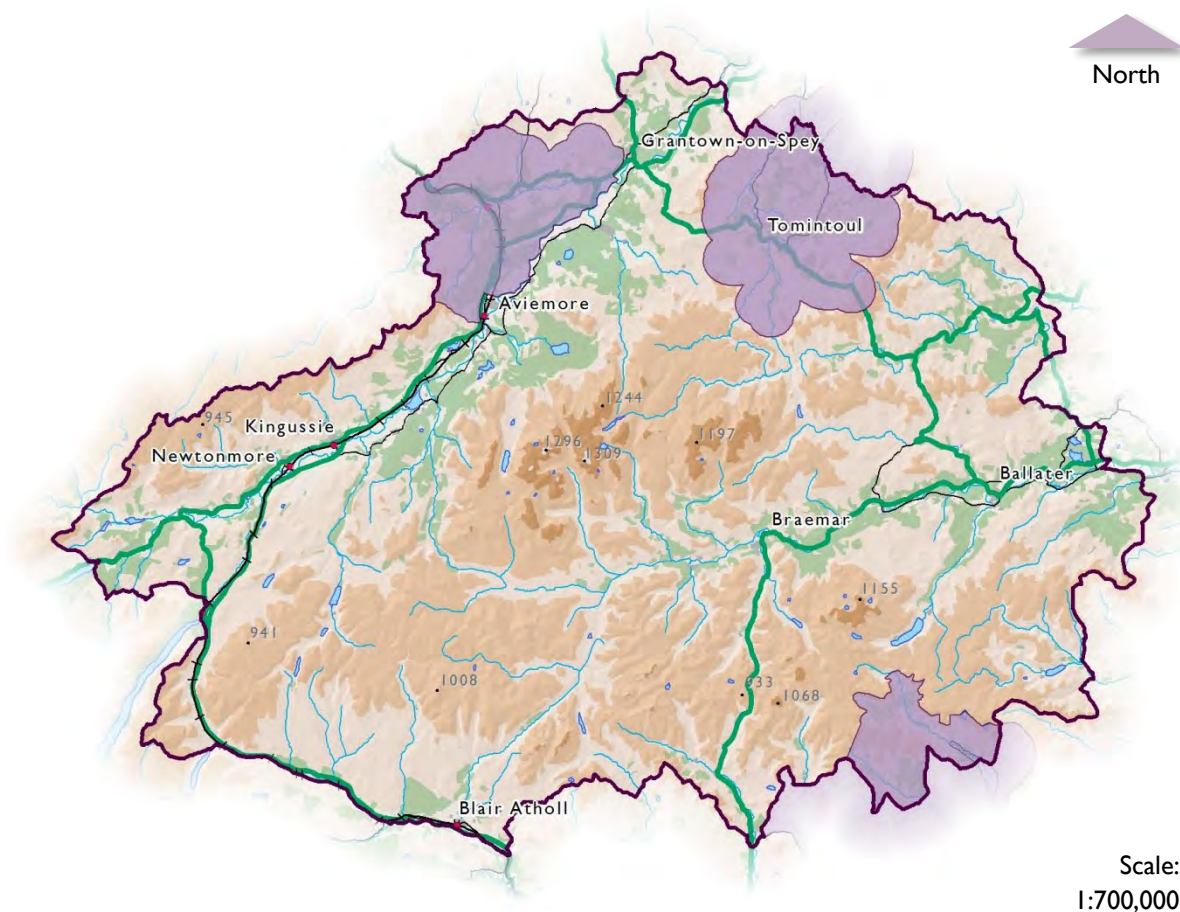


Figure 90 Wildcat Priority Areas within the Cairngorms National Park.

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details three wildcat conservation areas within the National Park (**Figure 90**).

Deer

There are four species of deer found within the Cairngorms National Park, all contributing to different extents to the biodiversity and economy of the area. The UK's largest wild land mammal, red deer are common in most areas of the National Park and have long been central to the cultural and natural heritage of the Highlands. Their economic importance and significant positive and negative impacts on the land means that their careful management is critical, and at times causes controversy.

Roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) are also numerous in the National Park and are a common sight on lower ground in and around woodlands. Although less high profile, they are popular with wildlife spotters and are valued for venison, but can cause damage to young trees and crops.

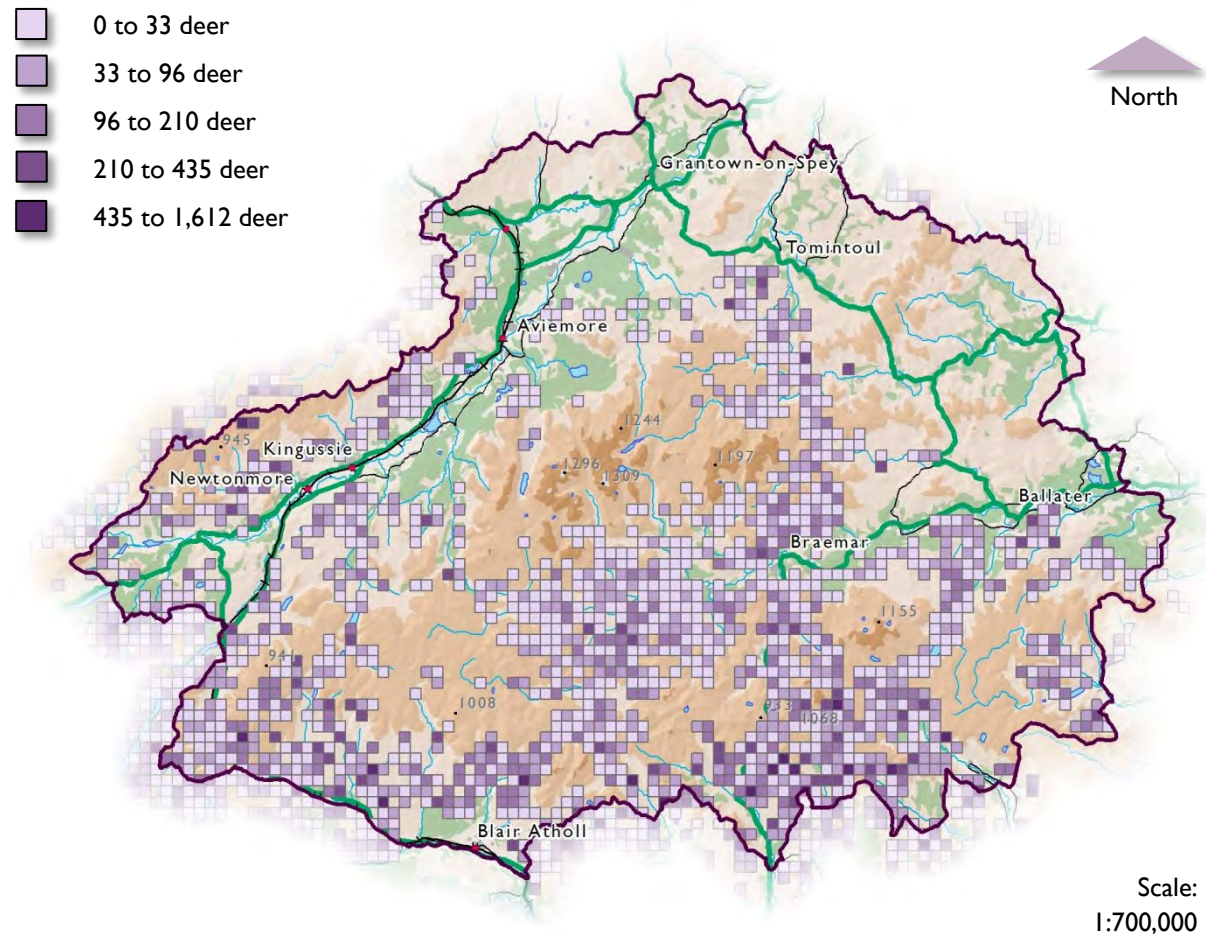


Figure 91 Deer density polygons of 1km² based on results from deer counts, 2000 - 2018.

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Non-native Sika deer (*Cervus nippon*) are present in much smaller numbers and are of concern because of their potential to interbreed with red deer.

The unique herd of semi-domestic reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*) in the National Park are important mainly as a tourist attraction.

The Cairngorms Deer Advisory Group is a forum to promote and advise on best practice deer management within the Cairngorms and is formed from local deer group members. In partnership with the CNPA they have produced The Cairngorms Deer Management Framework (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2011). One of the Framework's aims is to create patchwork of deer densities allowing different deer management objectives to be achieved in different parts of the Park **Figure 92**.

Key Woodland Sites in the Cairngorms National Park

Key woodlands within the Cairngorms National Park are Abernethy, Glenmore, Rothiemurchas and Inshriach, all of which are located in Strathspey. Together these

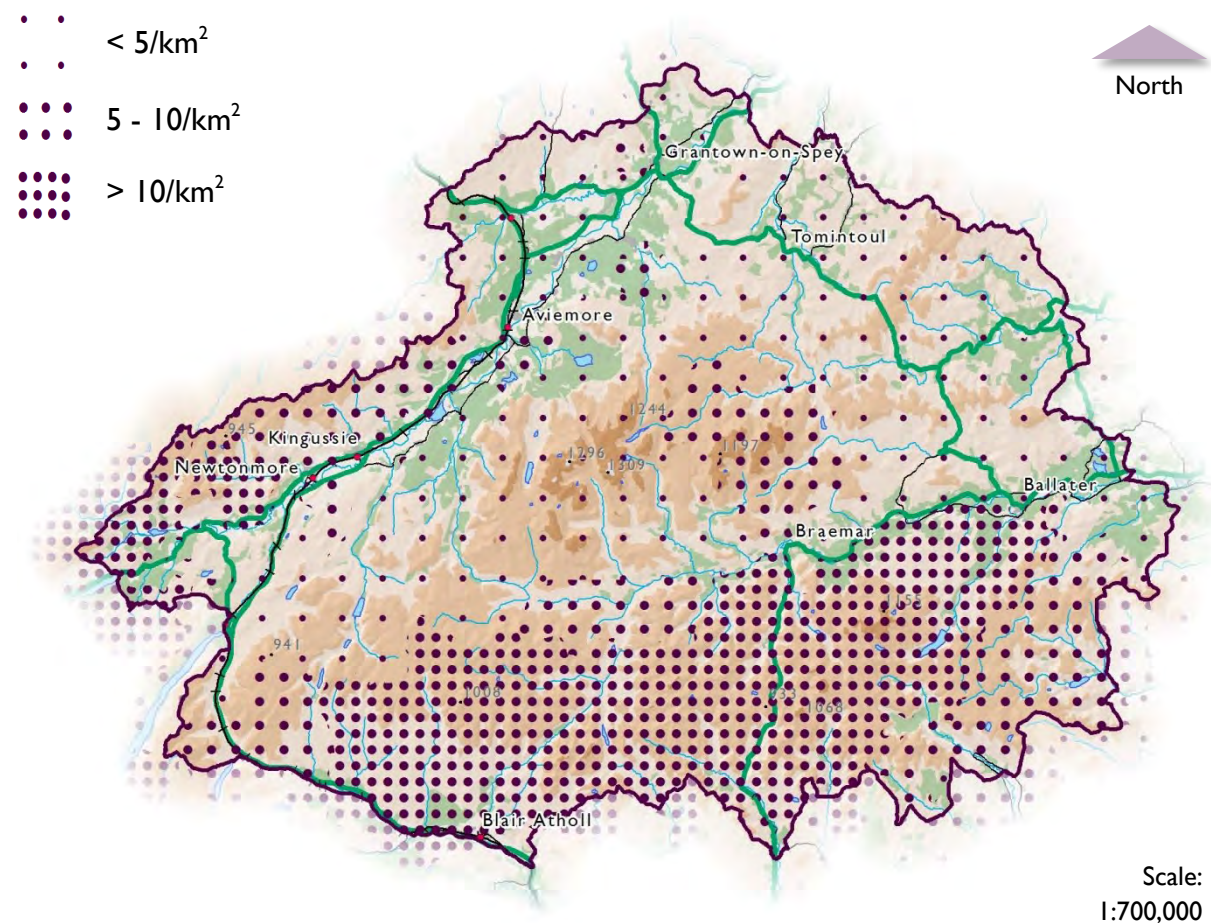


Figure 92 Aspirational red deer densities in the Cairngorms National Park, November 2015.

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reserves form the largest continuous tract of native woodland in the UK. In Deeside the two NNRs Glen Tanar and Dinnet Oakwood are examples of Caledonian woodland and old sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) woodland, a habitat which is very fragmented in north-east Scotland. They are managed by various organisations, which include the Forestry Commission, NatureScot, RSPB and the Estates. They are home to osprey, capercaillie, red squirrel and crossbill. The forests have a rich understorey and plant species include twinflower and one flowered wintergreen (*Moneses uniflora*).

Freshwater, Wetlands & Wet Grassland

A mosaic of wetland habitats with fens, bogs, woods, wet grassland and open water provides a home to a rich array of wildlife (**Figure 93**). The National Park is one of the most important sites for breeding waders due to the combination of wetlands, wet grassland and low-intensity mixed farming. Even so, birds such as lapwing and redshank have seen dramatic declines in

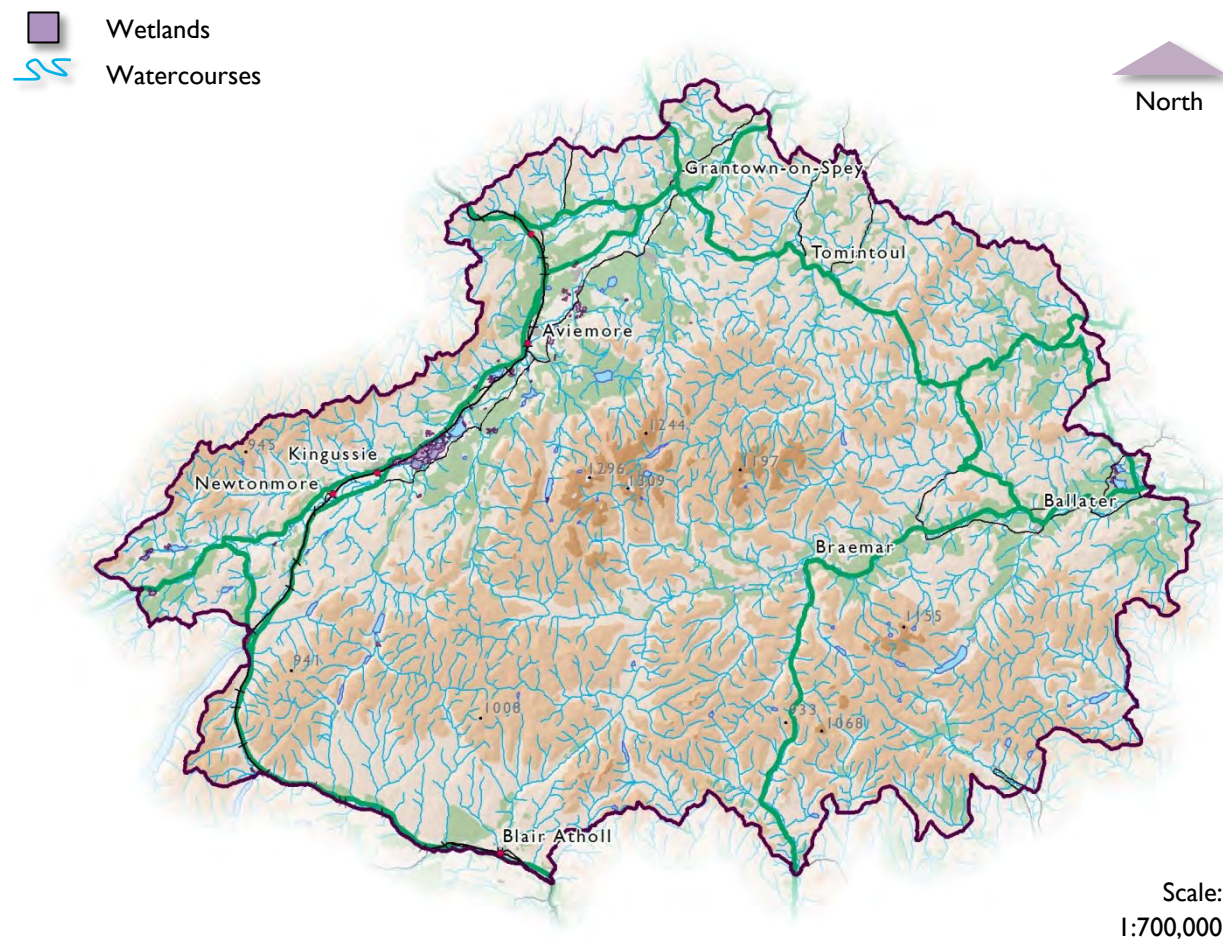


Figure 93 Wetlands within the Cairngorms National Park (Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981).

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numbers in recent years. Wet grasslands are the products of agricultural management, they are not extensive within the National Park and are often in low-lying areas of fields where crop yield and productivity is low. Wetlands would have once been an extensive habitat within the Cairngorms National Park but have suffered dramatic declines here as in the rest of the UK.

The Cairngorms are the source of the internationally designated rivers Spey, Dee, Tay and South Esk, which support Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*), freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*), otter (*Lutra lutra*) and lamprey (*Petromyzontiformes*). The lochs support fish including Arctic charr (*Salvelinus alpinus*).

The WFD Classification places a requirement on SEPA to monitor the ecological status of waterbodies and its ability to continue to function as such. Within the National Park around 50% of waterbodies are classified as being at good or better ecological status (**Figure 94**), however, recently the ecological status of

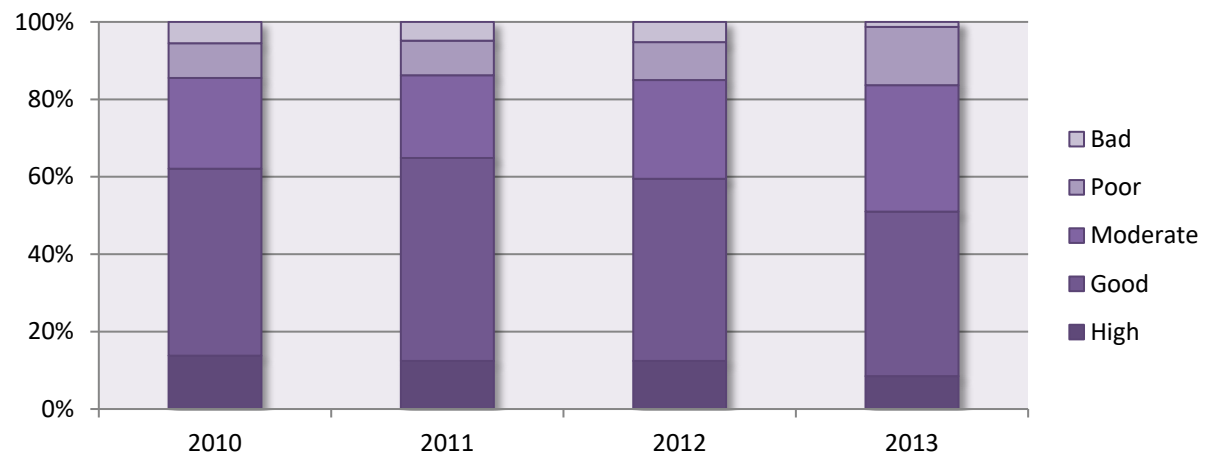


Figure 94 Ecological status of waterbodies within and overlapping the Cairngorms National Park.

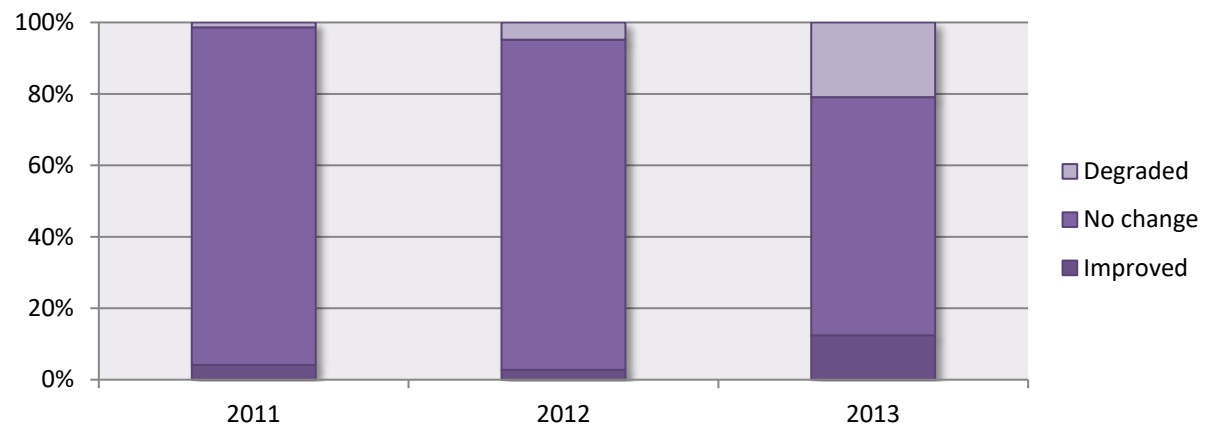


Figure 95 Change from previous year in the ecological status of waterbodies within or overlapping the Cairngorms National Park

Source: <http://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/rbmp-interim-planning-tool/>

many waterbodies within the National Park has been on the wane (**Figure 95**). See **Topic 3: Water** (p. 145) for further information on the quality of waterbodies in the National Park. **Table 23** provides the main issues affecting wetlands within the National Park together with actions required to address them.

Table 24 Issues affecting Freshwater, Wetlands and Wet Grassland in the Cairngorms National Park.

Habitat	Issue	Action Required
Wet grassland	Over-grazing and poaching by livestock, cutting for hay at critical wader breeding times and drainage to produce productive agricultural land	➤ Support land managers and farmers to conserve populations of breeding waders. Improve and restore wet grassland.
Wetlands	Wetlands have historically been drained for agriculture, suffered water shortages as a result of over abstraction and impoundment and been subject to pollution pressure from diffuse and point sources. The remaining wetlands are now often small and fragmented.	➤ Create new wetland habitats.
Freshwater	Rivers and lochs and the species they support have been affected by large scale impoundments which have a hydrological impact but also affect sediment dynamics, barriers to fish passage, diffuse and point source pollution and invasive species such as <i>Ranunculus</i> .	➤ Continue to support river management to improve and maintain good ecological status of waterbodies, create new freshwater targets.

Key species for focused action

The CNAP species which have been selected for targeted action and are dependent on Freshwater, Wetlands & Wet Grassland habitat are listed in **Table 25**.

Working in partnership, the CNPA is involved in projects aimed directly at improving the status of wetland habitats and their associated species within the Cairngorms National Park, these include:

River Catchment Initiatives

Several of the rivers within the National Park have associated initiatives who co-ordinate partnerships to deliver integrated catchment management they are (**Figure 96**):

- Spey Catchment Initiative,
- Dee Catchment Partnership,
- River South Esk Catchment Partnership, and
- River Don Catchment Partnership.

The main objectives to meet WFD good status within these catchments are to

Table 25 Freshwater, Wetlands & Wet Grassland species selected for targeted action in CNAP (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2013).

Species	Status in the CNP
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Breeding lapwings are in decline in Strathspey, the Waders and Wetlands Project aims to research reasons for the decline and work with landowners to encourage sympathetic land management.
Northern damselfly <i>Coenagrion hastulatum</i>	This a very rare and localised species with almost all known lochan locations within the CNP, it is very similar to Common blue damselfly but has a distinctive 'ace of spades' marking.
Northern silver-stiletto fly <i>Spiriverpa lunulata</i>	Stiletto larvae are long, thin, white and worm-like. They are ferocious predators with a glossy hard skin that lets them slither through dry sand as they chase their insect prey. Habitat needs – exposed sand and shingle on river banks
Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>	The freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> grows to 140 mm in length, and burrows into sandy substrates, often between boulders and pebbles, in fast-flowing rivers and streams. It is sensitive to heavy siltation and requires high water quality.
Northern February red stonefly <i>Brachyptera putata</i>	The Northern February red is a freshwater species endemic to Britain, found mainly in Scottish upland streams. Due to its rarity and decline in numbers this insect has been made a Priority Species on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).

address barriers to fish, tackle diffuse pollution and improve river morphology.

Strathspey Wetland and Waders Initiative

The Strathspey Wetlands and Waders Initiative (SWWI) was set up to work with farmers and other landowners to safeguard wetland habitats and the future of the nationally important wader population in Badenoch and Strathspey - the largest of its kind in mainland Britain.

Pearls in Peril

'Pearls in Peril' (PIP) is a UK wide LIFE funded nature project with 22 partners working together to restore river habitats benefiting freshwater pearl mussel and salmonids. A total of 48 actions will be delivered across 21 rivers designated as SACs for freshwater pearl mussel. The freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) is declining dramatically throughout its range. Mussel populations have been affected by multiple issues, including wildlife crime – pearl fishing was



Figure 96 Areas covered by River Catchment Initiatives.

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legal until 1992 but persists illegally, habitat degradation and declining water quality. This project will help to safeguard the future of the most important pearl mussel populations in the UK by tackling these threats and implementing best practice conservation methods.

A recent survey of freshwater pearl mussel sites in the River Spey highlighted a 50% decline in the population (Sime, 2014), meaning the status of the mussel in the River Spey SAC is currently classified as unfavourable and declining. The reasons for this are still under investigation but are attributed to water quality, especially nutrient levels; an increase in the abundance of water crowfoot (*Ranunculus* spp.) in the middle and lower Spey; low river levels in the middle and lower reaches which have killed established mussel beds; illegal fishing and no recruitment of juveniles in the middle to upper reaches which means the distribution will gradually contract as older mussels die.

Key Wetland Sites

Muir of Dinnet NNR

At the heart of the Reserve are Lochs Davan and Kinord, with their near pure water and associated bogs and fens providing ideal habitat for a wide mix of species; from rare water beetles to mammals like otter, feeding and breeding on the Reserve. During winter, the lochs are an important roost site, attracting migrating geese and other wildfowl. Their international importance is recognised by their designation as a SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.

Muir of Dinnet has two areas of raised bog, one at Parkin's Moss to the south-west of Loch Kinord and the other at Black Moss to the north-east of the Reserve. Together they cover approximately 32 ha. Sphagnum mosses, the most important plants of a raised bog, are found at both locations, growing in the wet, acid and nutrient poor conditions. Both bogs support other specialist bog plants including bog cotton, cranberry and the carnivorous plants,

butterwort and sundew. The bogs are also home to a wide variety of insects, including at least eight species of dragonfly or damselfly.

Insh Marshes NNR

One of the most designated wetlands sites in Scotland, the Insh Marshes is owned and managed by the RSPB and is renowned for its birdlife throughout the year. The marshes are also home to rare invertebrates such as the newly discovered in Scotland caddisfly (*Molanna angustata*) and hoverfly (*Cheilosia psilophthalma*) and a population of Dark Bordered Beauty moth (*Epione vespertaria*). Mammals include water vole and otter. Wetland vegetation includes String Sedge (*Carex chordorrhiza*), which is only found at one other location in Scotland. Its international importance is recognised by its designation as a SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.

Uplands

The Cairngorms are considered to be one of the most spectacular mountain areas in Britain and support a rich arctic montane flora (**Figure 97**). Upland heath is the most extensive habitat due mainly to human activities such as felling, burning and grazing which prevents natural tree regeneration and drainage to allow grouse and red deer hunting. Blanket bog (**Figure 50** and **Figure 51**) is the second most extensive habitat and is mainly *Calluna-Eriophorum* dominated blanket mire.

Montane scrub is where dwarf trees and shrubs grow above the natural tree line. Dwarf willows, birches and juniper grow in a low twisted, wind-pruned form together with a variety of flowering plants, fungi, lichen and insects. The best example of a continuous treeline in Britain is at Creag Fhialach above Inshriach where a complex of Juniper and birch scrub grows at 550-650m.

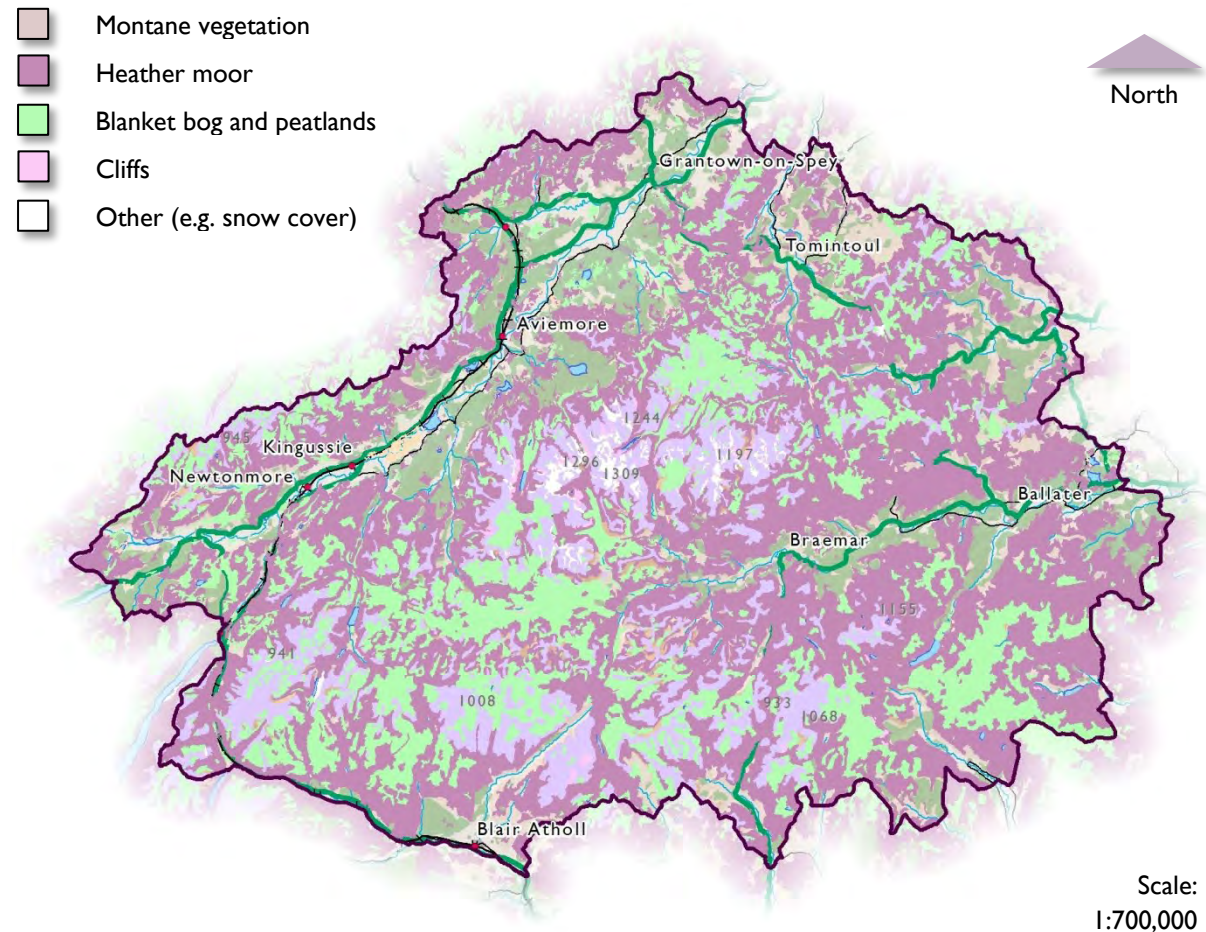


Figure 97 Upland land cover types within the Cairngorms National Park (**Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981**).

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Table 25 provides the main issues affecting uplands within the National Park together with actions required to address them.

Table 26 Issues affecting uplands in the Cairngorms National Park.

Habitat	Issue	Action Required
Montane & moorland	Climate change, trampling, erosion and disturbance.	➤ Reduced grazing pressure and sympathetic disturbance.
Upland heathland	Drainage.	➤ Restoration and blockage of drainage channels.
Blanket bog	Erosion, which is likely to be a significant cause of carbon emissions.	➤ Sustainable deer management and following the Muirburn Code.
Montane scrub	Overgrazing and burning.	➤ Deer Management to prevent overgrazing.

Key species for focused action

Those Cairngorms Nature Action Plan species dependent upon upland habitat are listed in **Table 28**.

Working in partnership, the CNPA is involved in projects aimed directly at improving the status of upland habitats and their associated species within the Cairngorms National Park, these include:

Golden Eagle

North East Scotland Raptor Watch began in 2006. It's a partnership project that aims to address the problem of declining populations of rare or endangered species of birds of prey that breed in the uplands of North East Scotland. The Raptortrack project is into its fifth year of satellite tracking specific raptors in the Cairngorms National Park. Three Golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are presently being followed.

Montane Scrub Expansion

High altitude birches, willows and junipers would have been much more prevalent in

Table 27 Upland species selected for targeted action in CNAP (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2013).

Species	Status in the CNP
Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Breeds in high altitude areas of the CNP. At threat from persecution and disturbance.
Alpine blue sow thistle <i>Cicerbita alpina</i>	Alpine blue-sow-thistle is a very rare plant in the UK; it grows on only four rocky ledges sites on the Cairngorm Massif. It was once part of a more widely distributed mountain flora that is today restricted by changing land management practices and increased levels of grazing.
Tufted saxifrage <i>Saxifraga cespitosa</i>	A cushion-forming, perennial herb of well-drained base-rich rocks. It is found on mossy ledges, in crevices and on boulder-scare slopes, it is in decline in the Cairngorms.
Powdered sunshine lichen <i>Vulpicida pinastri</i>	Records exist for the Eastern and Southern Cairngorms.

the Cairngorms in the past. Centuries of burning and heavy grazing by livestock and deer have taken their toll on trees and shrubs which grow only slowly amid the poor soils and exposed conditions found high in the Cairngorms. Cairngorms Nature is bringing landowners in the core of the national park together to help identify where all the remnants are and the condition they're in, and explore ways of enhancing and expanding them (**Figure 88**).

The Cairngorms SAC/SPA is a key site in the effort to expand mountain scrub. Some of the best cliff and scree flora in the Cairngorms is found high up in the cliff buttresses, ridges and deeply indented gullies of the Northern Corries. A number of rare species grow here including alpine saxifrage (*Micranthes nivalis*), Highland saxifrage (*Saxifraga rivularis*), hare's-foot sedge (*Carex lachenalii*), curved wood-rush (*Luzula arcuata*) and green shield-moss (*Buxbaumia viridis*) above the treeline in

Creag Fhiaclach is one of the best areas for montane scrub in Britain.

Lowlands

The lowland farmland and grassland within the National Park (**Figure 98**) has been traditionally managed less intensively than the rest of the UK. There are small fragmented areas of lowland and upland hay meadows which are locally important for biodiversity and include many species of orchid and waxcap fungi.

Those Cairngorms Nature Action Plan species dependent on lowland habitat are listed in **Table 29**.

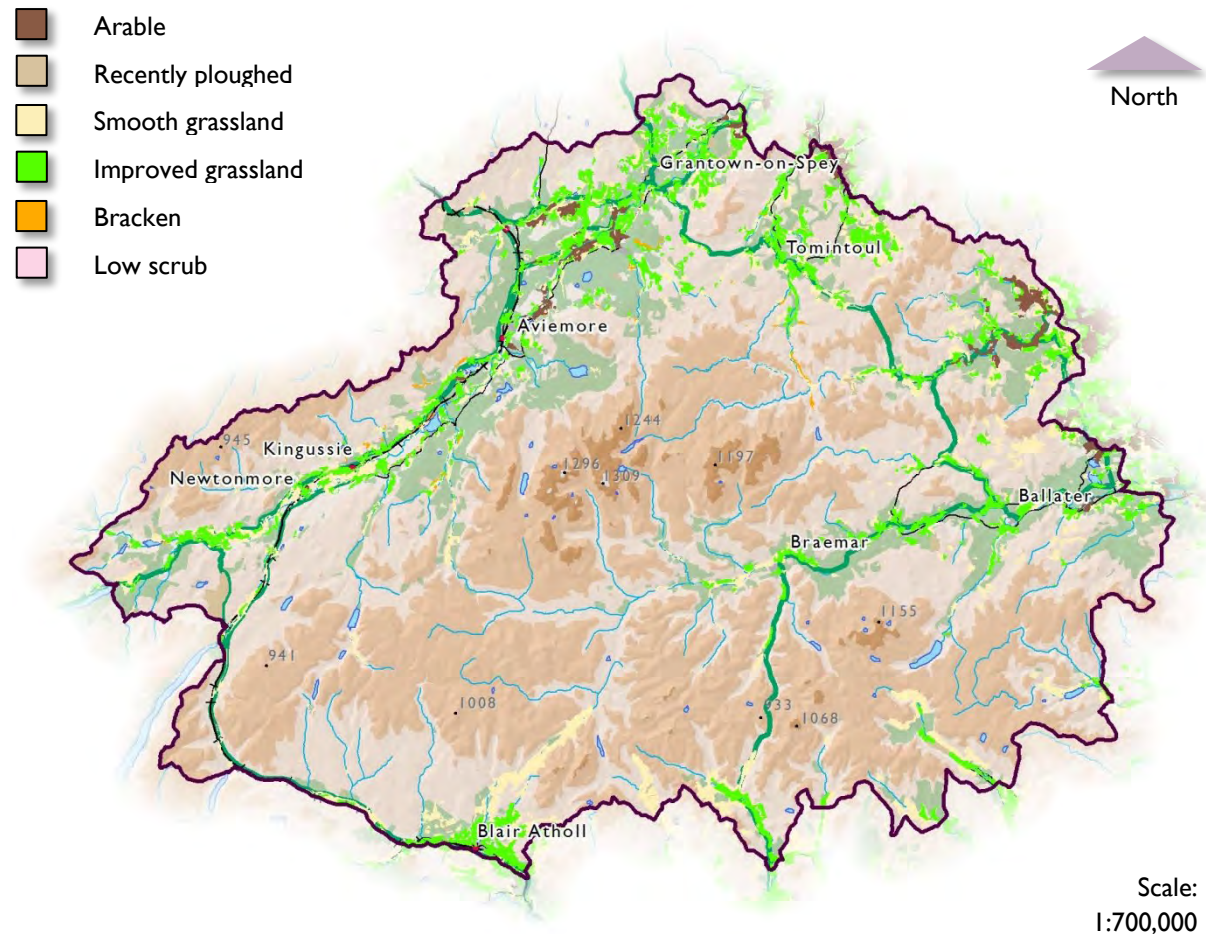


Figure 98 Lowland land cover types within the Cairngorms National Park (**Soil Survey of Scotland Staff, 1981**).

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Working in partnership, the CNPA is involved in projects aimed directly at improving the status of lowland habitats and their associated species within the Cairngorms National Park, these include:

Farm Advisory

Most of the farms in the National Park are livestock farms. Farmers and crofters keep beef cows, sheep and grow small areas of crops. Most of the crops are for feeding to livestock - grass for hay and silage, turnips for sheep in winter - however some crops such as barley are grown for whisky distilleries. Many of the farmers and crofters in the park are in 'agri-environment' schemes, which means that they take extra care of the environment by careful grazing, growing special crops for birds, and growing wildflower meadows. The CNPA provides advice, support, various projects and special learning events such as the Land Management Training Series which recently included a deer stalking course for women working within the Cairngorms National Park.

Table 28 Lowland species selected for targeted action in CNAP (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2013).

Species	Status in the CNP
Small dark yellow underwing <i>Anarta cordigera</i>	Depends on bearberry-rich moorland, mainly at altitudes of between 200-650m. Flies rapidly in sunshine, but in dull weather can be found at rest on rocks and posts.
Mining bee <i>Andrena marginata</i>	Requires bare ground for nesting and grassland rich in devils-but scabious as a nectar source. Only a handful of known sites in the National Park.
Violet oil beetle <i>Meloe violaceus</i>	Occurs in woodland, heathland and grassland habitats where solitary bees are abundant which it requires for part of its lifecycle.
Crimson waxcap <i>Hygrocybe punicea</i>	One of the largest of the waxcaps, <i>Hygrocybe punicea</i> is an infrequent find on cropped grassland. It occurs in late summer and autumn and is only found in grassland along Strathspey and Deeside.

Bio-security

Non-native species, pathogens and disease can have an impact on the nature of the Cairngorms and a range of environment-based economic activities including fishing, farming and forestry.

Non-native species can kill, harbour disease, or compete with native species. A number have been recorded in the National Park, including the plants, Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzanum*), Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), American

Skunk Cabbage (*Lysichiton americanus*); the mammals American Mink (*Mustela vison*) and Grey Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*); and the fish, rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*), roach (*Rutilus rutilus*), tench (*Tinca tinca*), golden orfe (*Leuciscus idus*) and bream (*Abramis brama*).

The CNPA is a partner in the Scottish Mink Initiative which aims to have river catchments within the Cairngorms (and throughout Scotland) free from mink to enhance water vole and ground nesting bird populations. The CNPA also supports the

Cairngorms non-native fish project to stop the deliberate or accidental release of non-native fish into the Dee or Spey catchments.

Pathogens can cause death or reduce viability of populations which has great implications for habitat connectivity.

Red band needle blight (also known as Dothistroma Needle Blight) is a fungus which causes the premature loss of pine needles. Currently in the National Park planting of Scots Pine next to existing stands is discouraged which could have long term impacts on woodland structure and species composition.

Ash die back or Chalara (*Hymenocyphus fraxineus*) is a fungus causing dieback and mortality in Ash trees. In 2015 records show it on the southern edges of the National Park.

Ramorum Phytophthora ramorum is a fungal disease of Larch, the highest incidence is in the south west of Scotland but it was recorded on the southern and eastern fringes of the National Park in 2015.

Phytophthora austrocedraeon is a fungus which causes dieback and mortality in Juniper when it attacks the roots and stems, it has been found within the CNP and is thought to be transmitted to new areas through movement of sheep.

Key Messages

The Cairngorms National Park is considered to be one of the richest and biodiverse places in the UK, being home to 25% of the UK's rare animal, insect, lichen, fungi and insect species.

Consequently, large areas have are protected by various types of national and international nature designation, including NNRs, SSSIs, SACs and SPAs. A number of these designations are however in unfavourable condition.

Increasingly the National Park's valued species and habitats are under threat from habitat loss, fragmentation, disturbance and unsustainable land management practices. Some important species, such as Capercaillie and Freshwater Pearl Mussel have been under particular pressure and have seen significant drops in their population.

The Cairngorms National Park Authority already has a number of PPS in place to help prevent, mitigate and compensate the loss of biodiversity, including the Cairngorms Nature Action Plan (2013), Active Cairngorms Strategy (2015), The Cairngorms National Park Forest and Woodland Framework (2008) and Deer Framework for the Cairngorms National Park (2011). The implementation LDP may therefore result a number of cumulative, synergistic and in-combination with these. Together they should work towards a cohesive approach addressing issues, linking the needs of people with the natural environment.

Inter-relationships with other topics

➤ Topic 1: Climatic Factors	131
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Topic 7: Landscape and Cultural Heritage

Landscape

“Landscapes [are]... an essential component of people’s surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity.”

European Landscape Convention (2000).

Landscape is the physical manifestation of space, the tangible elements that give shape and diversity to our surroundings. It is the product of thousands of years of interaction between man and nature, encompassing the environmental and cultural, physical and symbolic. It is also the environment perceived, predominantly visually but additionally through our senses of smell, touch and hearing. Our appreciation of landscape is also affected, by our cultural backgrounds, and by personal and professional interests.

Landscape is important, not just as scenery but because it links culture with nature, and the past with the present. Well-looked after and highly valued landscapes are

essential to social well-being and an economically healthy society. Landscapes are valued because of their inherent interest, their contribution to both national identity and local distinctiveness. The protection of high quality and highly valued landscapes therefore is important both for its own sake and for the health, social and economic wellbeing of individuals and communities.

At 4,528 square kilometres, and comprising 6% of Scotland’s land area, the Cairngorms National Park is the UK’s largest protected landscape.

The Cairngorms are best known as an upland massif of expansive proportions and a sub-arctic environment. There are no other mountains like them in Britain. Massive granite domes with corries and passes scooped out; broad rolling plateau more like Scandinavia than the UK. Nowhere else is consistently higher, colder or wilder. The mountains domination the

National Park and have an effect on the way people live and the landscapes they live in.

But the landscape of the Cairngorms National Park is far more than that. It encompasses strath and glen, village and farm, woodland, moorland, river and loch. Landscapes that provide a home and a livelihood, engage the imagination, excite the mind, challenge our endurance and strength and give us a sense of the past and memories for the future.

Landscapes change daily, seasonally and year by year as the light changes, as crops are harvested, as trees grow, as houses are built and others fall into ruin and as rocks weather and erode. In the coming years and decades, the landscapes of the National Park will change as we address issues such as climate change, the decline of fossil fuels and changing population dynamics.

Landscape Character Areas

The whole of the National Park is divided into landscape character areas, which can be categorised as belonging to either its Uplands or Glens and Straths (**Figure 99**). These areas are all different but within each one there is a consistency of character formed by the topography, land use, history, settlement and development and the way the landscape is experienced. Within the glens and straths there is more diversity of landscapes in a smaller area, whereas in the uplands the landscape tends to be similar over much larger areas (Grant *et al.* 2009).

The character areas provide a spatial framework for the delivery of the National Park's responsibilities, duties and policies. A description of their landscape characteristics, experience and sensitivity of each area, along with a succinct summary of what makes the areas distinctive from elsewhere in the national Park, is provided on the CNPA's website:

www.cairngorms.co.uk/landscape-toolkit

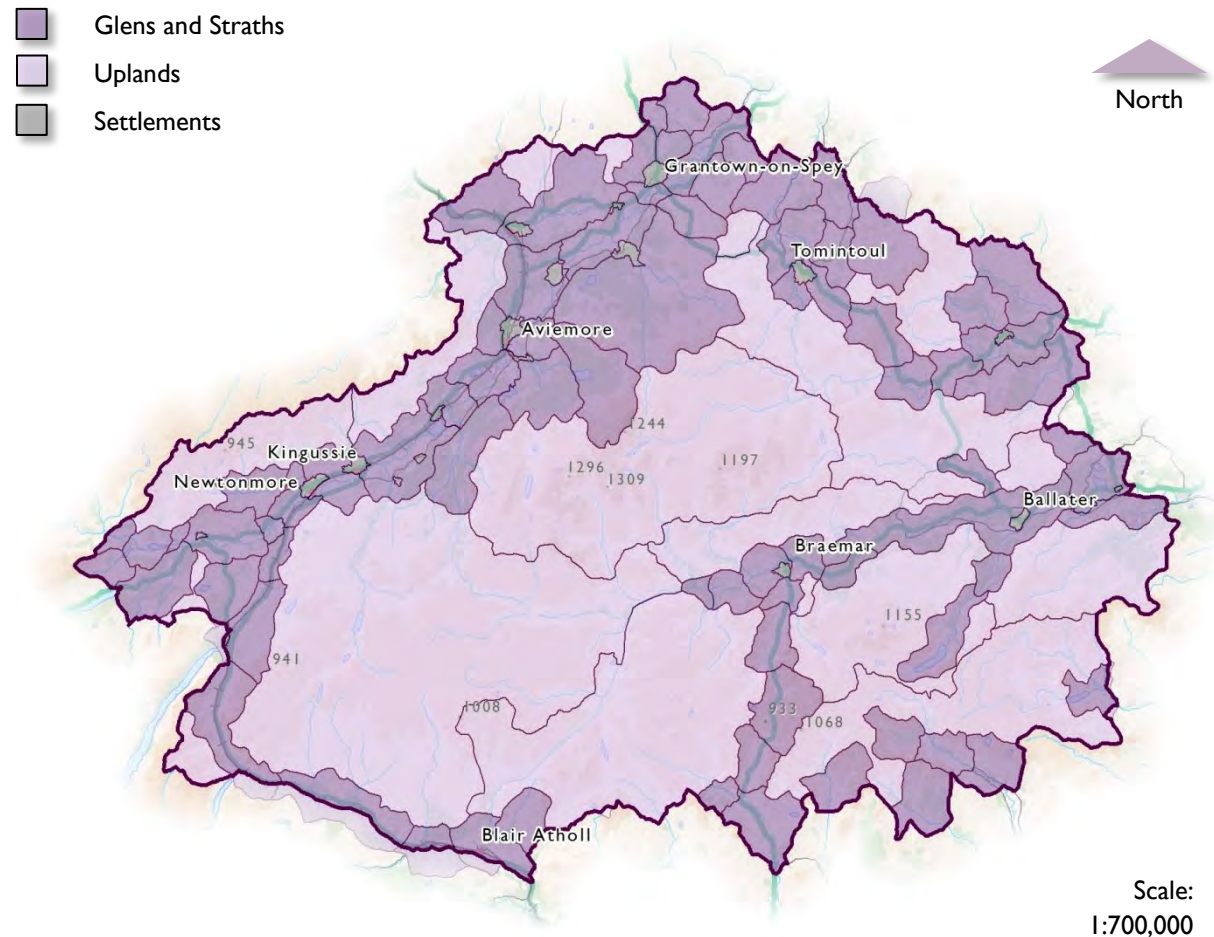


Figure 99 Broad categories of Landscape Character Areas of the Cairngorms National Park.

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National Scenic Areas

The landscapes of the Cairngorms National Park have long been regarded as worthy of protection, with three National Scenic Areas (NSAs) being designated in 1980/1981 (NatureScot, 2010). Two, namely the Cairngorm Mountains NSA and Deeside and Lochnagar NSA, are located entirely within the National Park boundary and are largely centred on the highest mountain plateau at its core (see **Figure 100**), but also include lower hills and areas of moorland, woodland and inhabited strath (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010). Combined, the two NSAs cover an area of around 1,072 square kilometres, which equates to just under 25% of the National Park's land area. The third designation is the Loch Tummel NSA which very slightly overlaps the National Park's boundary at Killiecrankie, near Blair Atholl. The area of this NSA within the National Park is insignificant when considering its full dimensions.

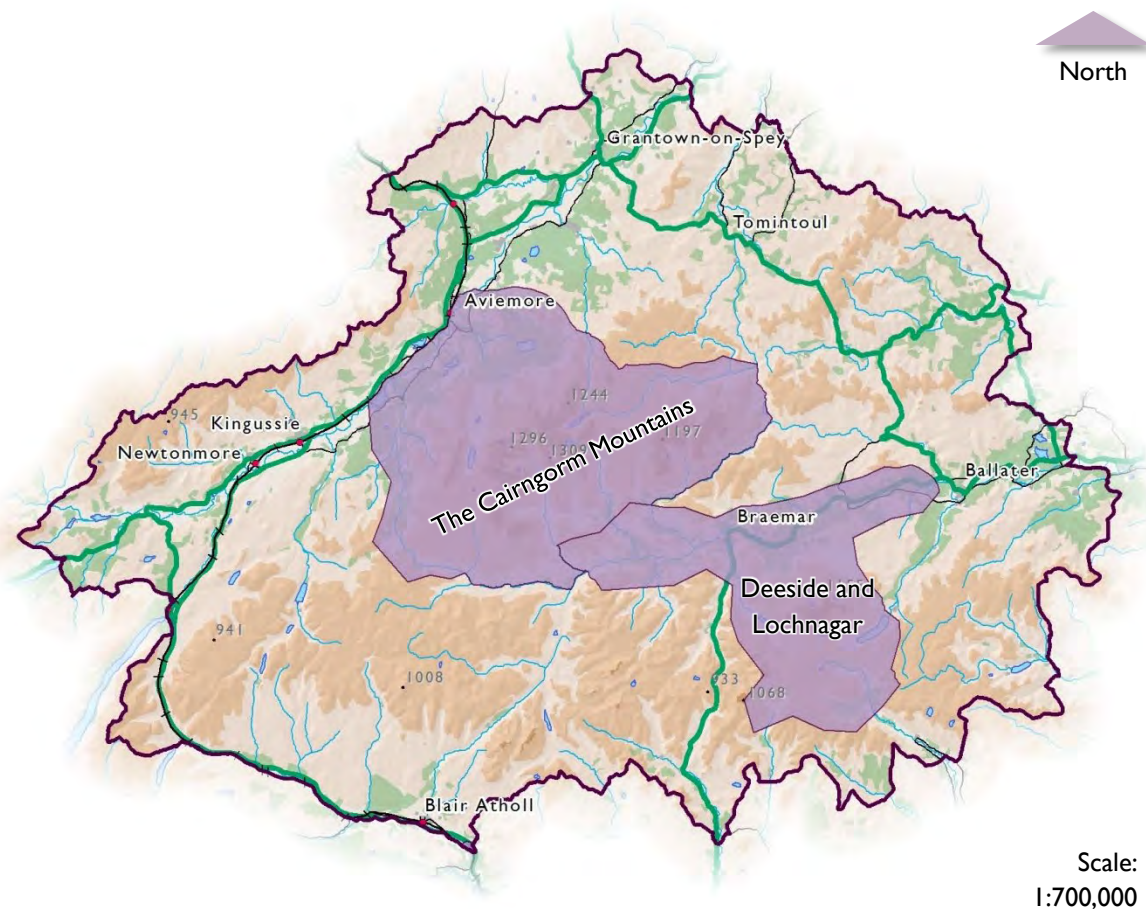


Figure 100 National Scenic Areas of the Cairngorms National Park.

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NSAs are designated under Section 263A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, and are defined as “*of outstanding scenic value in a national context*”. The legislation also states that within an NSA “*special attention is to be paid to the desirability of safeguarding or enhancing its character or appearance*” (NatureScot, 2010). This is given a policy basis through paragraph 212 of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (Scottish Government, 2014, p. 48). Most new developments within NSAs need to be accompanied by a design statement, and there are restrictions on certain permitted development rights.

The original descriptions given in the 1978 report *Scotland's Scenic Heritage* (Countryside Commission for Scotland, 1978), which lead to the designation of NSAs, may be found in the appendices of *The Special Landscape Qualities of the Cairngorms National Park* (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010):

<https://www.nature.scot/naturescot-commissioned-report-375-special-landscape-qualities-cairngorms-national-park>

Special Landscape Qualities

In 2010 work was conducted to identify the ‘Special Landscape Qualities’ of the Cairngorms National Park’s landscape (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010). This work identified the qualities that make the landscape and scenery of the area special and hence underpins the reason for the designation of both the National Park and the National Scenic Areas within it. This will make it easier to direct future landscape change so that the appeal and value of the National Park can be passed on to future generations. The work also provides a solid basis for any activity designed to promote the area, whether to residents, businesses or visitors.

Table 29 provides a summary of the National Park’s special landscape qualities; full details may be found in *The Special Landscape Qualities of the Cairngorms National Park* (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010).

Table 29 Summary of the special landscape qualities of the Cairngorms National Park (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010).

General Qualities	Trees, Woods and Forests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Magnificent mountains towering over moorland, forest and strath. ➤ Vastness of space, scale and height. ➤ Strong juxtaposition of contrasting landscapes. ➤ A landscape of layers, from inhabited strath to remote, uninhabited upland. ➤ 'The harmony of complicated curves'. ➤ Landscapes both cultural and natural. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dark and venerable pine forest. ➤ Light and airy birch woods. ➤ Parkland and policy woodlands. ➤ Long association with forestry.
The Mountains and Plateaux	Wildlife and Nature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The unifying presence of the central mountains. ➤ An imposing massif of strong dramatic character. ➤ The unique plateaux of vast scale, distinctive landforms and exposed, boulderstrewn high ground. ➤ The surrounding hills. ➤ The drama of deep corries. ➤ Exceptional glacial landforms. ➤ Snowscapes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dominance of natural landforms. ➤ Extensive tracts of natural vegetation. ➤ Association with iconic animals. ➤ Wild land. ➤ Wildness.
Moorlands	Visual and Sensory Qualities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Extensive moorland, linking the farmland, woodland and the high tops. ➤ A patchwork of muirburn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Layers of receding ridge lines. ➤ Grand panoramas and framed views. ➤ A landscape of many colours. ➤ Dark skies. ➤ Attractive and contrasting textures. ➤ The dominance of natural sounds.
Glens and Straths	Culture and History
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Steep glens and high passes. ➤ Broad, farmed straths. ➤ Renowned rivers. ➤ Beautiful lochs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Distinctive planned towns. ➤ Vernacular stone buildings. ➤ Dramatic, historical routes. ➤ The wistfulness of abandoned settlements. ➤ Focal cultural landmarks of castles, distilleries and bridges. ➤ The Royal connection.
	Recreation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A landscape of opportunities. ➤ Spirituality.

Wildness

Wildness is a quality experienced by people when visiting places of a certain character. Measuring wildness is inherently difficult, as people respond differently according to their personal experience and their expectations of a place. However, an exercise carried out by NatureScot considered wildness through four physical attributes being present, which they measured and mapped. These attributes were:

- The perceived naturalness of the land cover (**Figure 102**);
- The ruggedness of the terrain which is therefore challenging to cross (**Figure 103**);
- Remoteness from public roads, ferries or railway stations (**Figure 104**); and
- The visible lack of buildings, roads, pylons and other modern artefacts (**Figure 105**).

These four attributes were then combined to produce a map of relative wildness of the whole of Scotland (**Figure 101**).

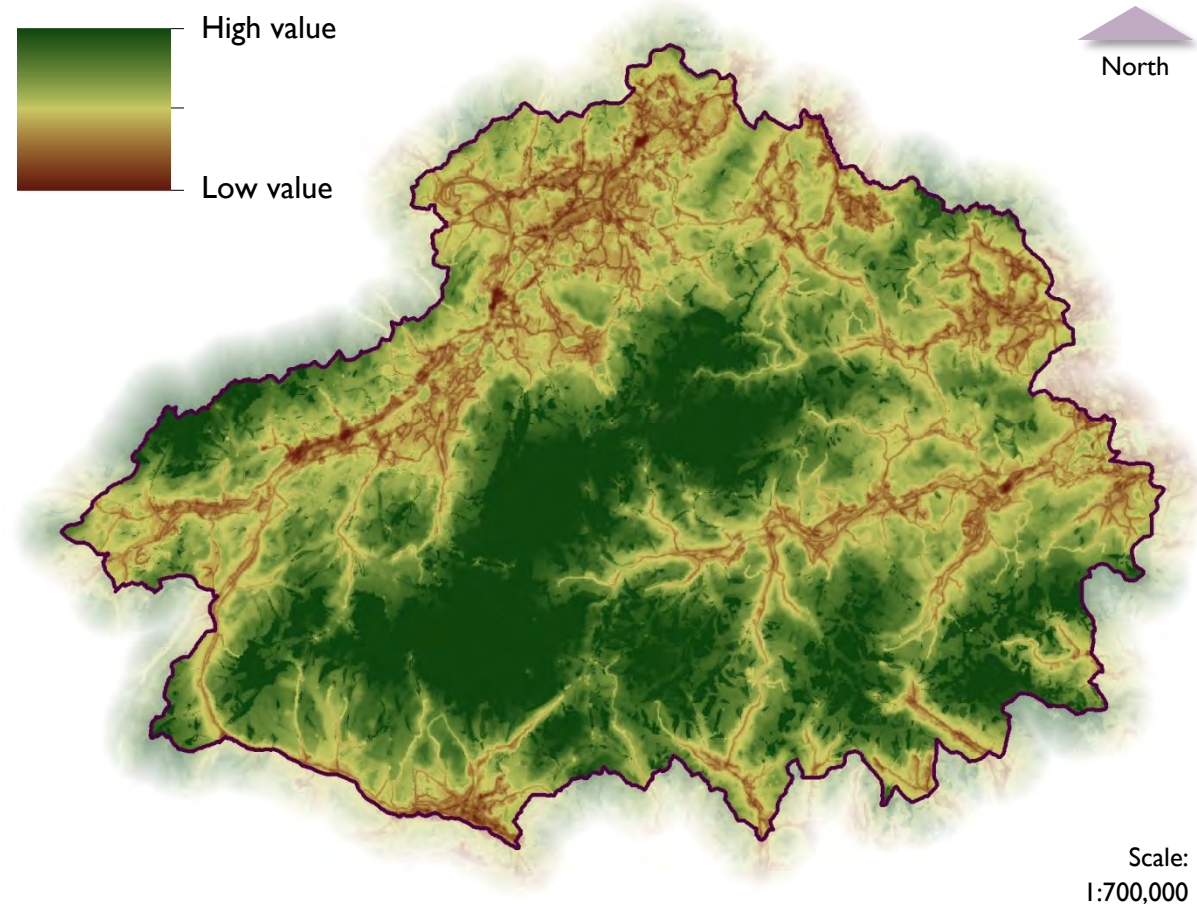
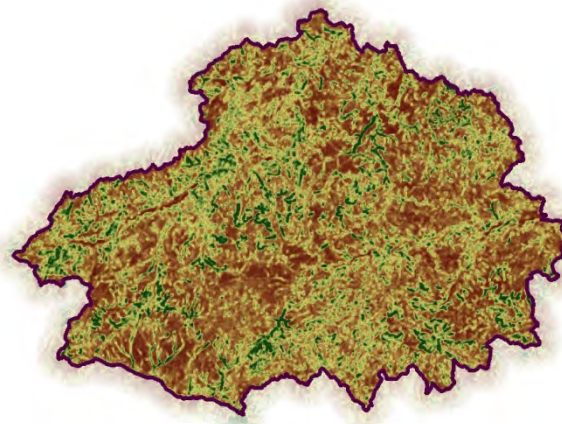


Figure 101 Relative wildness of the Cairngorms National Park (composite of Figures 110, 111, 112 and 113).

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Figure 103 Ruggedness of terrain



All maps are at a scale of 1:1,400,000.

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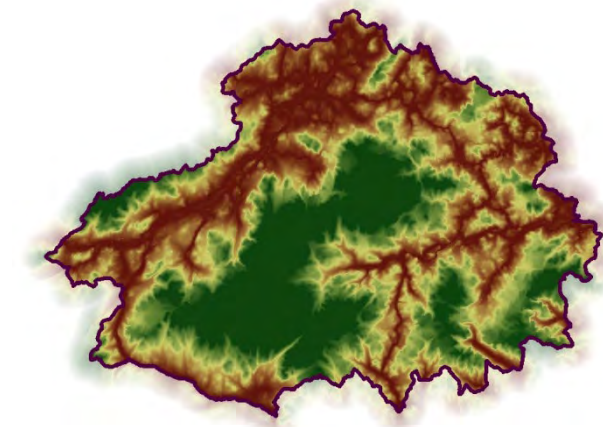
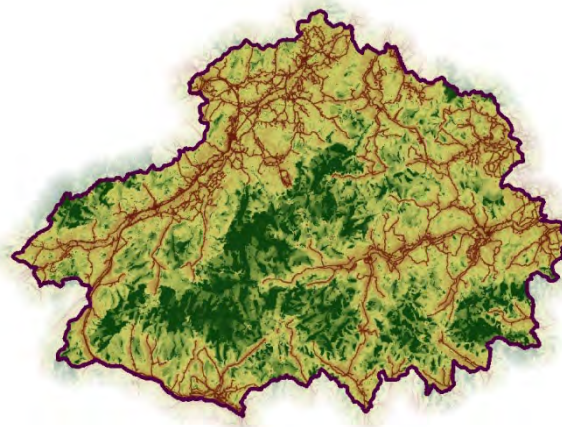


Figure 104 Remoteness from public roads, ferries or railway stations

Figure 105 Lack of built modern artefacts



Wild Land

Based on the work carried out to measure relative wildness, NatureScot published a new map of wild land areas, which represent the most extensive areas of high wildness in Scotland.

Around 2,100 km², or 46%, of the Cairngorms National Park has been identified as 'wild land' as defined by its perceived naturalness, rugged or challenging terrain, remoteness from public mechanised access and lack of built modern artefacts (NatureScot, 2014).

Five areas have been identified within the National Park (**Figure 106**), namely:

- 14. Rannoch - Nevis - Mamores - Alder;
- 15. Cairngorms;
- 16. Lochnagar – Mount Keen;
- 19. Braeroy - Glenshirra - Creag Meagaidh; and
- 20. Monadhliath.

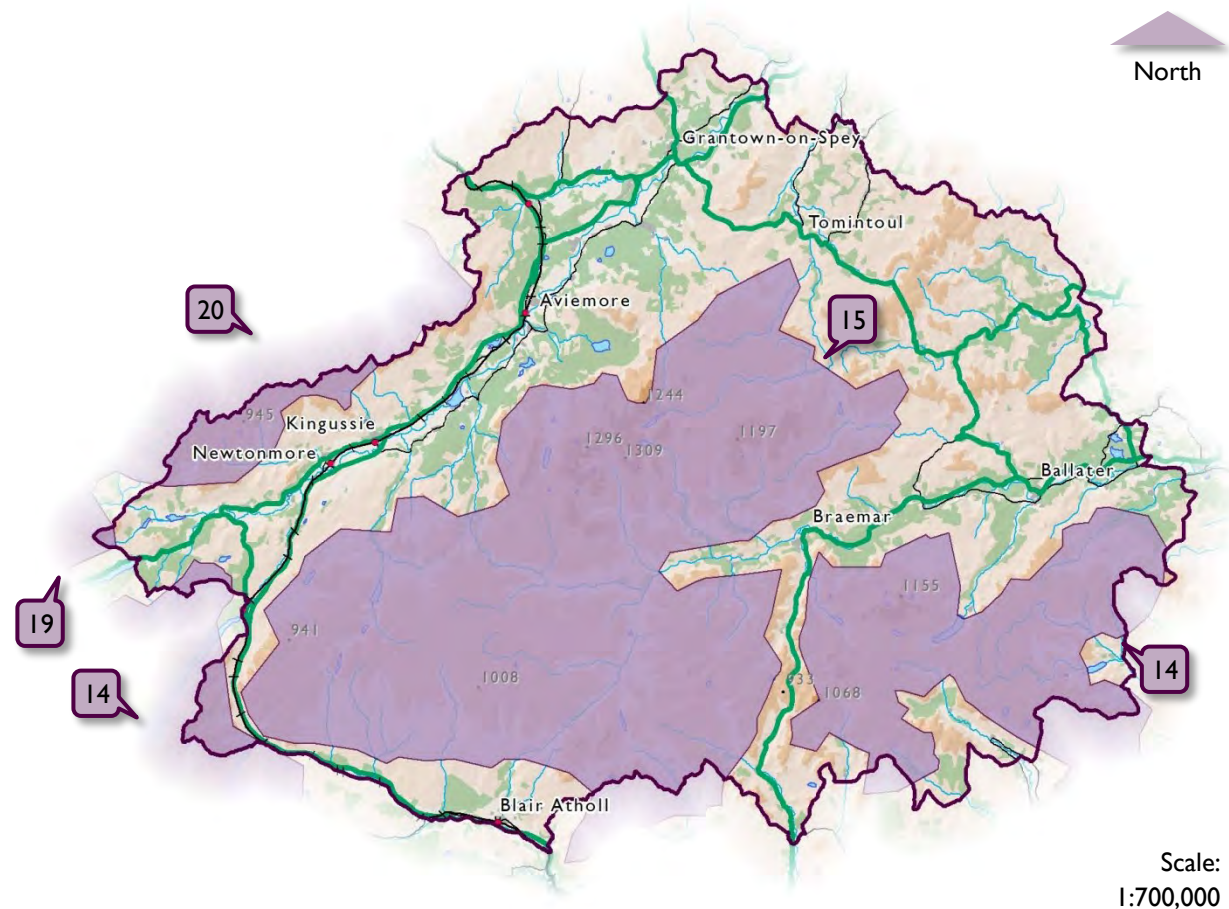


Figure 106 Wild Land Areas in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Areas 15 and 16 are almost entirely located within the National Park, while the other three only just overlap its boundary.

These wild and remote areas have a distinct and special character, which is increasingly rare to find. A key component of Scotland's identity, they bring significant economic benefits, attracting visitors and tourists. Many people derive psychological and spiritual benefit from their existence, and they provide increasingly important havens for Scotland's wildlife (NatureScot, 2014).

Wild land is described in the National Planning Framework (NPF) (Scottish Government, 2014) as a "...*nationally important asset*" (p. 42) and according to SPP (Scottish Government, 2014), "*plans should identify and safeguard the character of areas of wild land...*". The LDP will therefore need to take account of these areas.

Cultural Heritage

Historic Landscape

"The context or setting in which specific historic features sit and the patterns of past use are part of our historic environment. The historical, artistic, literary, linguistic, and scenic associations of places and landscapes are some of the less tangible elements of the historic environment. These elements make a fundamental contribution to our sense of place and cultural identity."

Historic Scotland (2011).

The landscape we see today is the endpoint of a long period of evolution, involving a complex interplay of the natural elements of climate, geology, geomorphology, soil development, vegetation succession and herbivore impact – and with a rich overlay of human elements linked to settlement, transport, farming and forestry (see **Figure 107**). Similarly, it should be expected that the landscape will continue to evolve in future in response to on-going social,

economic and environmental change (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010).

Similar to the rest of rural Scotland, the landscape of the National Park was transformed during the late-18th and 19th centuries, and its present character was established at this time. The Improvement, as this period was known, resulted in a revolution in the agricultural practices of the area, with the landscape reorganised as regular fields were laid out, farmsteadings replaced, farms amalgamated into larger units and improved cropping regimes were introduced alongside other measures to improve productivity, such as underground drainage. In the uplands, the reorganisation saw the wholesale depopulation of the large areas to create extensive sheepwalks and shooting estates (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland & Historic Scotland, 2001) (Dalglish & Tarlow, 2012).

Prior to this the pattern of settlement was dominated by multiple-tenancy farms, within which houses were usually clustered

together in small townships, with ridged fields, which had grazing grounds beyond. These townships and their field systems are by-far the most extensive archaeological remains in the National Park, and reflect the zenith in the area's population during the 18th century (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland & Historic Scotland, 2001) (Dalglish & Tarlow, 2012).

There is very little remaining evidence across the National Park for settlement pre-dating the 18th or perhaps the 17th century. Indeed beyond the few castles, towers and churches for which medieval dates can be suggested, evidence for medieval settlement is almost non-existent. It is likely that the pattern of medieval settlement largely followed that of the present day and therefore, much is likely to have been lost due to development and intrusive agricultural practices, such as ploughing (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland & Historic Scotland, 2001)

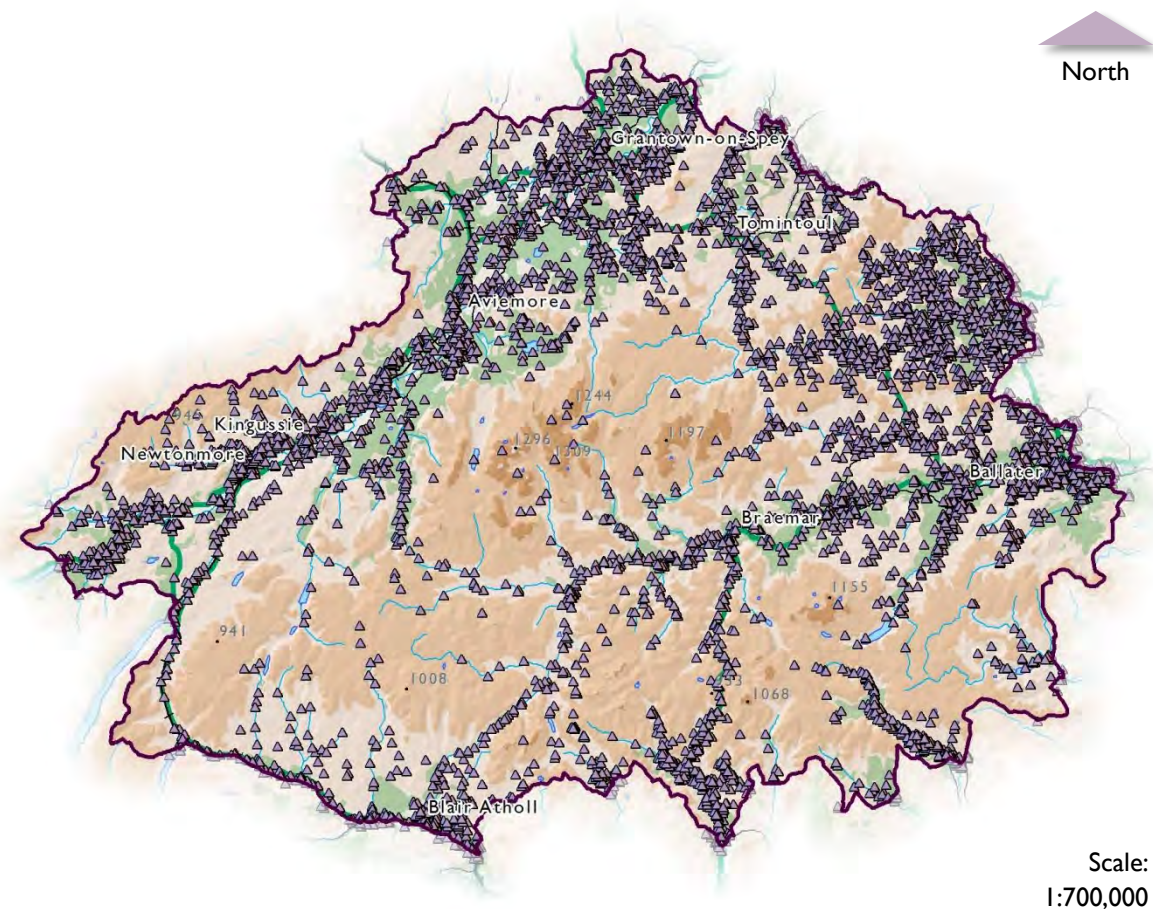


Figure 107 Distribution of National Monuments Record sites in the Cairngorms National Park. See <http://canmore.org.uk/> for further information.

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(Hall & Price, 2012). This does not mean however that further evidence does not exist, and appropriate measures should be taken to investigate sites prior to the commencement of future land-use changes.

The distribution of prehistoric monuments largely lies in a zone of survival beyond the fringes of the Improvement and pre-Improvement remains. The episodes of settlement are difficult to differentiate within the National Park, and therefore the term 'Prehistoric' is often used to describe a period starting around 9,000 years ago in the Mesolithic to around AD 1000. Overall there was a spread of human activity across the area during this period, though evidence suggests that the focus of settlement was in the main Glens and a cycle of expansion and contraction in the uplands as the prevailing climate fluctuated (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland & Historic Scotland, 2001).

Owing to the transitory nature of the Mesolithic populations, evidence of occupation during this period is scarce. It is not until the Neolithic, beginning around

4,000 BC, that people began to build the structures, such as chambered cairns and stone circles, that we still see today. Bronze Age burial monuments from after 2000 BC can also be found, and evidence of settlement from this period is more common. From around 1000 BC Bronze age patterns of settlement a burial and ritual monument cease and the primary evidence for occupation takes the form of settlement and land use. Fortified enclosures such as Dun-da-lamh near Laggan, date from this period (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland & Historic Scotland, 2001) (Saville & Wickham-Jones, 2012).

Archaeological evidence from around AD 500 to AD 1000 is rare, although some buildings of a subrectangular plan, cemeteries, cropmarks and earthworks thought to date from this period have been identified. Other more visible monuments of this period are the sculptured stones, in particular the cross-slabs, which illustrate the establishment of Christianity in the area (Royal Commission on the Ancient and

Historical Monuments of Scotland & Historic Scotland, 2001) (Sheridan & Brophy, 2012) (Downes, 2012) (Hunter & Carruthers, 2012). This archaeological evidence is of great cultural significance because it relates to areas or periods for which there are no written records and is therefore of fundamental value in understanding the development of the current landscape. The historic environment makes a special contribution to the landscape of the National Park through the story it tells of past history, through providing a human scale to the dramatic natural environment and through vividly demonstrating the tenacity and strength of the human spirit in the face of difficult circumstances. This evidence of historic land use is consequently an important quality of the landscape of much of the National Park (NatureScot and Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2010).

Information about the National Park's historic environment is available from the Historic Environment Scotland's Historic Land Use Map: www.hla.rcahms.gov.uk

The map uses simple annotations to show how the landscape has changed over time, giving the user a tool to decipher the broad elements of the historic environment.

HES also offer an interactive map of archaeological and architectural sites in Scotland, which acts as a portal to more detailed information held by various partners:

www.pastmap.org.uk

Scheduled Monuments

Scheduled Monuments (SMs) are nationally important sites, buildings and other features of artificial construction given legal protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (Historic Scotland, 2013). There are 106 SMs recorded within the National Park (**Figure 122** and **Figure 109**), covering 6 of the 8 periods recorded. They include chambered burial cairns and associated stone circles of late Neolithic age; examples of Iron Age defensive remains such as the aforementioned Dun-da-lamh hill fort; Pictish remains such as the 8th century Loch

Kinnord Cross Slab; military structures such as the 18th century Hanoverian fort of Ruthven; and industrial remains such as the 18th / 19th century ironstone mine-crushing mill at the Well of Lecht (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2006).

Further information on SMs may be found on Historic Environment Scotland (HES) (formerly Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland) website:

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/searchmonuments.htm

Designated Landscapes and Gardens

Designed gardens and landscapes form a relatively small part of the National Park's landscape, with the majority being country house gardens and policies. Components include woodlands, parklands, meadows, water features, glass houses, pinetums, kitchen gardens, formal gardens, avenues, drives and approaches, architectural features, statuary and vistas (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2006).

'The Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland', which is maintained by HES, lists 11 gardens and designed landscapes within the National Park (**Figure 109**):

Aberdeenshire

- Balmoral Castle
- Candacraig House
- Glen Tanar
- Invercauld

Highland

- Aultmore
- Castle Grant
- Doune of Rothiemurchus
- Inshriach Nursery
- Kinara

Perth and Kinross

- Blair Castle
- Falls of Bruar

The effect of proposed development on a garden or designed landscape is a material

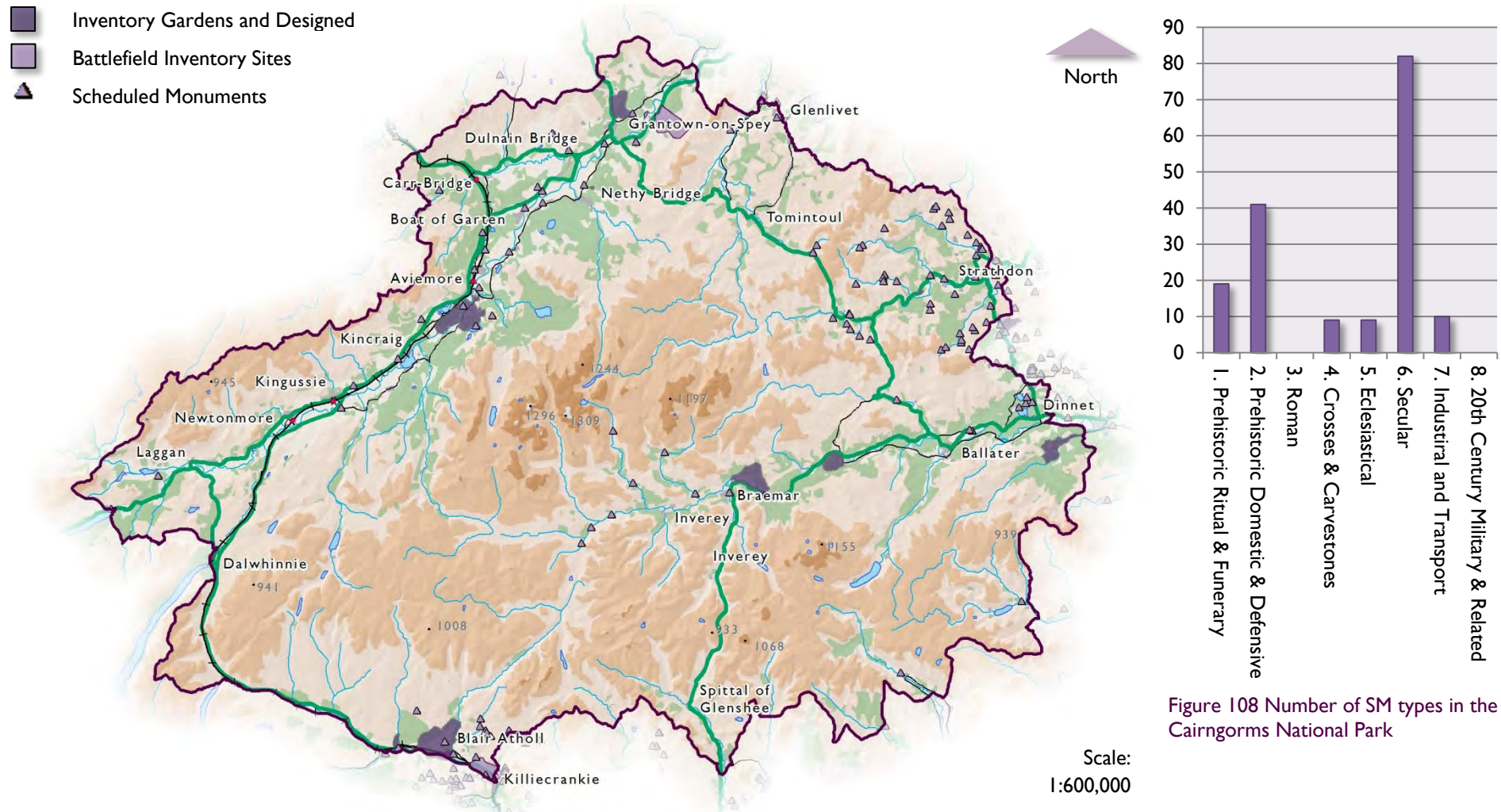


Figure 109 Historic Designations in the Cairngorms National Park.

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consideration in the determination of planning applications.

The Inventory is a list of sites that meet the criteria for defining national importance, as published in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (Historic Scotland, 2011, pp. 81-82). The effect of proposed development on a garden or designed landscape is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

With the exception of Inshriach Nursery, which is a specimen nursery, all other Inventory gardens and designed landscapes relate to country houses and estates.

While the Inventory is concerned with historic landscapes of national importance, there are other historic landscapes that are of more local significance. The Cairngorms National Park Historic Designed Landscapes Project (Peter McGowan Associates, 2013) identifies 33 historic and designed landscapes within the National Park and provides information about the history and context of each (**Figure 110**).

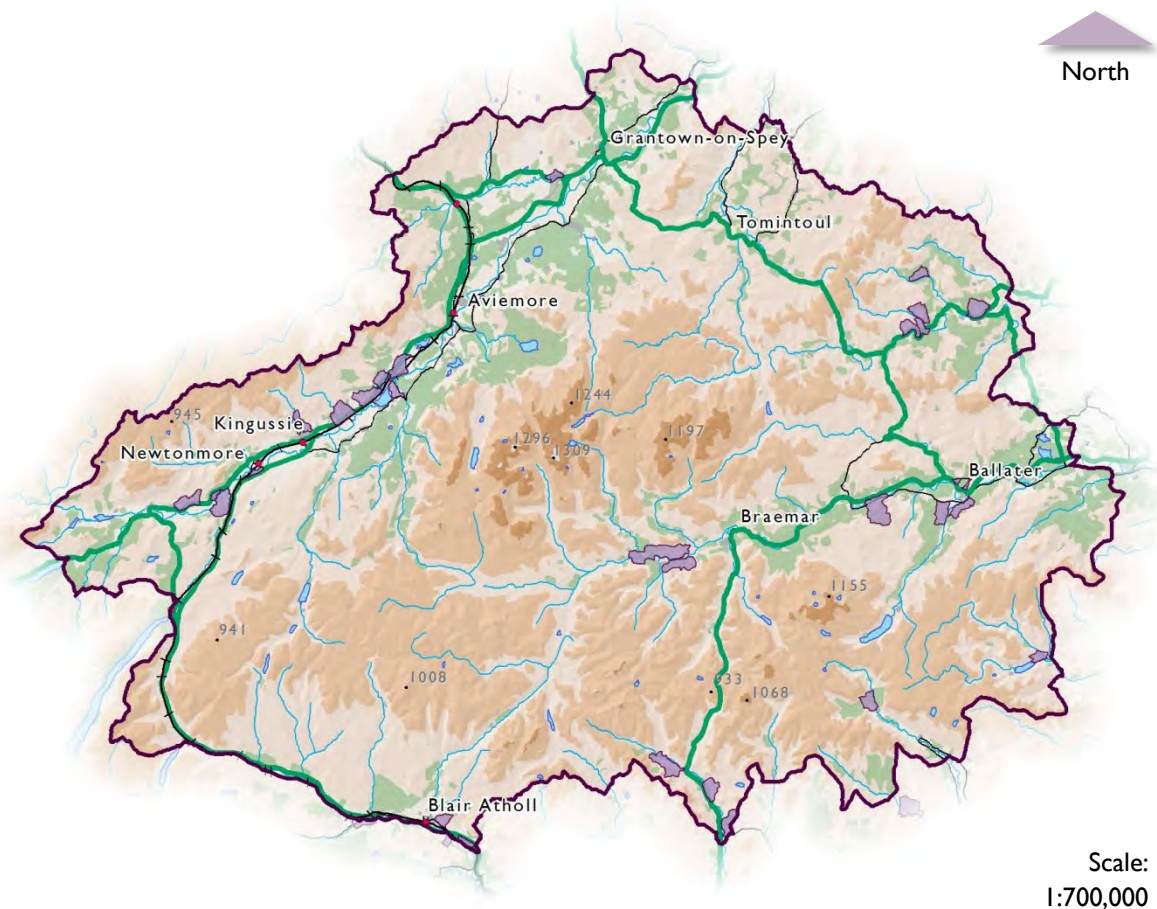


Figure 110 Historic and designed landscapes within the Cairngorms National Park (Peter McGowan Associates, 2013).

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Although not statutory designations and localised in their impact, the designed landscapes in the National Park can be seen to make a significant contribution to landscape character through their buildings, policy woodlands, parkland, surrounding plantations and fields. While some are comparatively isolated, and stand out in the landscape through their contrast with their mountainous setting, others benefit from their proximity to neighbouring landscapes, as Strathdon and around Kingussie, where they can be seen to have a group value. Although the landscapes can be categorised to some extent by their period, style or other characteristics, each one has a different story to tell, depending on the circumstances of its creation (Peter McGowan Associates, 2013).

Detailed information on the landscapes and gardens may be found on HES' website:

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/gardens.htm

Battlefields

Historic battlefields make a distinctive contribution to an area's sense of place and history, both locally and nationally. They are a superb resource for education, helping us understand why significant events in history unfolded as they did and providing a tangible link to some of the key figures of history. The ground on which the battles were fought has enormous potential for attracting tourists, as well as for general recreation, allowing visitors to experience the site of a dramatic historical event for themselves and imagine the past (Historic Scotland, 2011).

'*The Inventory of Historic Battlefields*', which is maintained by HES, lists 2 designated battlefield sites within the National Park (**Figure 109**):

- Battle of Cromdale (1st May 1690)
- Battle of Killiecrankie (27th July 1689)

The former battlefield is in Highland, while the latter falls within Perth and Kinross. The site of the Battle of Glenlivet (3rd

October 1595) in Moray, falls just outside of the National Park's boundary. It should be noted that not all battlefields within the National Park are listed in the Inventory, with the sites of the Battle of Invernavon (1370 or 1386) and Battle of Culblean (30th November 1335) being important examples.

The Inventory is a list of nationally important battlefields in Scotland that meet the criteria published in Scottish Historic Environment Policy (Historic Scotland, 2011, pp. 83-85). It provides information on the sites in it to raise awareness of their significance and assist in their protection and management for the future. It is a major resource for enhancing the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of battlefields, for promoting education and stimulating further research, and for developing their potential as attractions for visitors. The effect of proposed development on an Inventory Battlefield is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications (Historic Scotland, 2011).

Detailed information on Inventory Battlefields may be found on HES' website:

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/battlefields.htm

Built Heritage

Historic structures are a highly visible and accessible element of the Cairngorms National Park's rich heritage. The National Park is home to a wealth of historic buildings which cover a wide range of functions and periods and together chart the history of the nation. They cross all boundaries of life, from education to recreation, defence, industry, homes and worship. Much of the area's social and economic past and its present are expressed in these exceptional buildings (Historic Scotland, 2007).

Towns and Conservation Areas

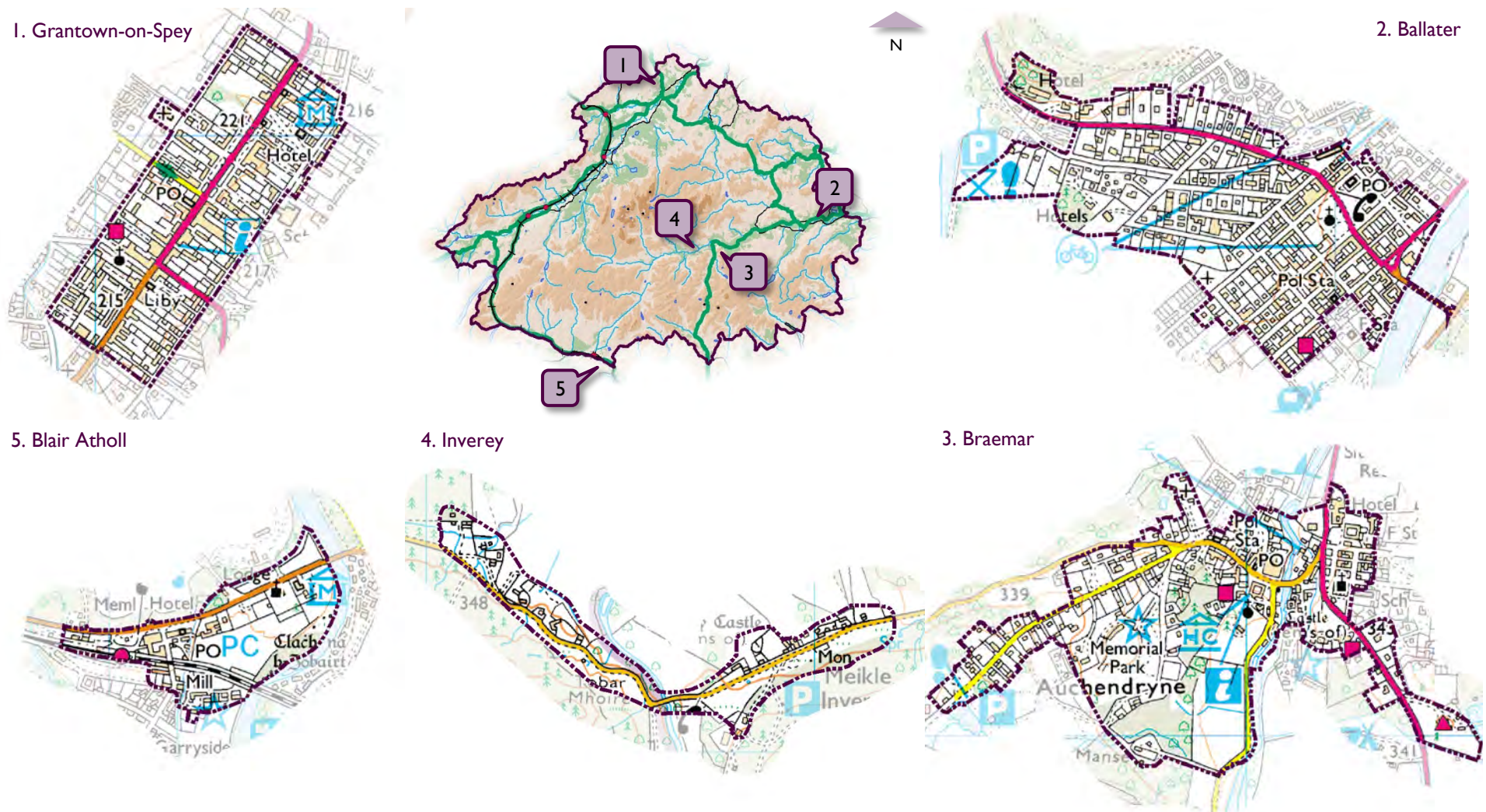
Planned towns are a feature of 18th and 19th century Scotland, and the National Park is home to five of importance, namely Ballater, Blair Atholl, Tomintoul, Grantown-

on-Spey and Kingussie. The latter three were created as market towns for the surplus food that resulted from higher productivity on the increasingly sophisticated farms. Town plans were drawn up and often specified the type of house which the landowner wished to encourage. Commodious permanent houses built of stone with slated roofs, glazed windows and usually comprising a single storey and attic with three or five rooms were often indicated, all placed within a rational and carefully thought out street plan. This is in direct contrast to the ad hoc dark, single-storey, single-room dwellings made from turf or rubble with a thatched roof, which would have been more typical in villages at this time (Historic Scotland, 2007).

Ballater, Grantown-on-Spey and Blair Atholl have been designated as Conservation Areas, which are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997. The National Park also has a further two Conservation Areas within its boundary at Braemar and

Inverey (**Figure 111**). Of these, only Blair Atholl benefits from a Conservation Area Appraisal (Perth and Kinross Council, 2007), which is available on the Council's website:

www.pkc.gov.uk/blairathollconservationarea



All Conservation Area maps are at a scale of 1:15,000

Figure III Conservation Areas in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Listed Buildings

Listing buildings and structures recognises their historic importance and this in turn helps ensure that their potential is not only for the study of history but for wider issues such as sustainability, community identity, local distinctiveness and social and economic regeneration.

Listed buildings can include structures from great country houses to modest croft houses, tenements to toll houses, and post boxes to primary schools. They can date from the early medieval period up until the 1980s. They need not necessarily be 'buildings' but could be bridges, railings, mileposts or statues. Whether urban, rural, industrial, public or residential they all contribute to their particular area and to Scotland as a whole. They are integral to Scottish culture and provide a unique record of our economic and social history (Historic Scotland, 2007).

The National Park contains around 753 buildings or structures of special historic or architectural interest, which are protected

under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 (**Figure I 12**); 56 of these are within Category A, 341 in Category B and 356 in Category C. The size of the National Park means that it is home to a number of distinctive building traditions, which were frequently determined by local conditions of geology and land-use. While it is beyond the remit of this document to describe every local characteristic throughout the area, some overarching trends are apparent.

A large proportion of structures relate to the agricultural revolution that took place during the Improvement of the 18th and 19th centuries. The period saw the establishment of the aforementioned planned towns, the creation of new more compact farmsteads, the enlargement or replacement of churches and the enlargement or replacement of old tower houses with new mansions. Such was the scale of change, that with the exception of a few of the major houses such as Muckrach, Braemar, Corgaff and Abergeldie Castles, few pre-

Improvement buildings now survive (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2006) (Historic Scotland, 2007).

Classical country houses on the Anglo-Dutch model of plain piend roofed boxes are rare within the National Park, although some notable examples exist in the 1753 north block at Castle Grant near Grantown-on-Spey and the 1790-96 Balavil House near Kingussie (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2006).

Until the late 19th century buildings were mostly constructed of locally available materials, such as earth, granite and quartz. Wood was also widely available and many structures, such as Mar Lodge and Ballater Station, were faced in timber. This has however lead to issues over their preservation as both have been severely damaged by fires, the former in 1991 and the latter in 2015. Throughout the area, tree-trunks have been used as picturesque supports for porches, overhanging roofs, verandas and balconies. Following the construction of the prefabricated ballroom at Balmoral, corrugated iron also gained in

popularity (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2006).

The purchase of the Balmoral Estate by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1852, and the subsequent arrival of the railway, had a major impact on the area, particularly in the settlements along the River Dee. Balmoral Castle was rebuilt in the Baronial vernacular in 1856 and its influence spread throughout the area, with neighbouring estates such as Invercauld, where the old house was remodelled, imitating its style. Buildings in Braemar and Ballater also adopted Baronial characteristics, together with hotels, shooting lodges, entrance lodges, banks and police stations.

Detailed information on Listed Buildings in Scotland may be found on HES' website:

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/historicandlistedbuildings

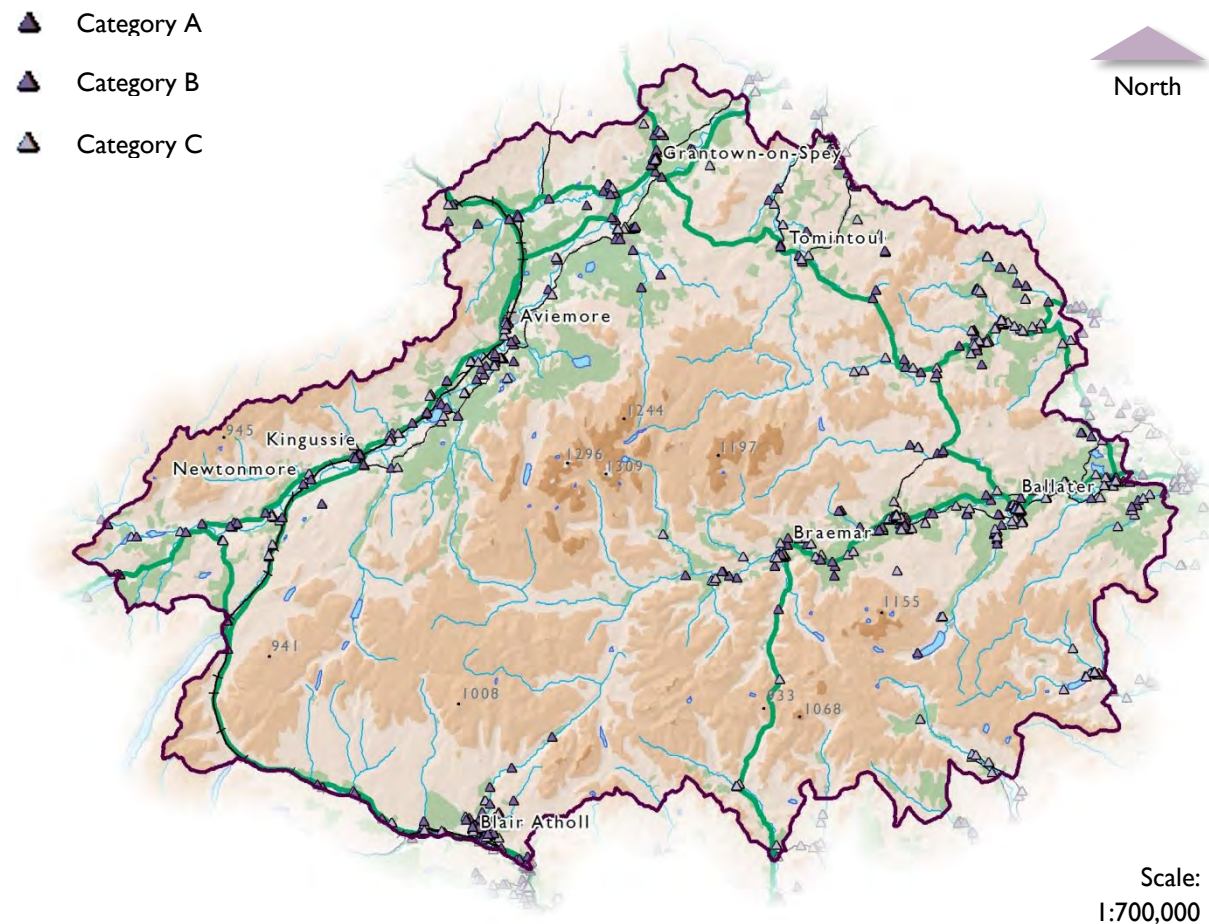


Figure 112 Listed Buildings in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Buildings at Risk Register

The Buildings at Risk Register (BARR) for Scotland highlights properties of architectural or historic merit throughout the country that are considered to be at risk or under threat.

A Building at Risk is usually a listed building, or an unlisted building within a conservation area, that meets one or several of the following criteria:

- Vacant with no identified new use,
- Suffering from neglect and/or poor maintenance,
- Suffering from structural problems,
- Fire damaged,
- Unsecured,
- Open to the elements, and / or
- Threatened with demolition.

To be at risk, a building does not necessarily need to be in poor condition, it may simply be standing empty with no clear future use. Many buildings at risk are in this latter category.

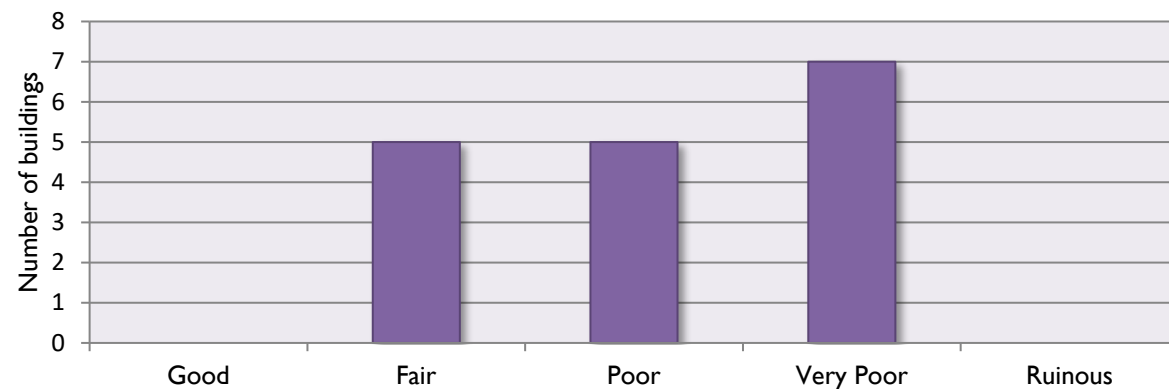


Figure 113 Condition of Buildings at Risk in the National Park in 2015 (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, 2015).

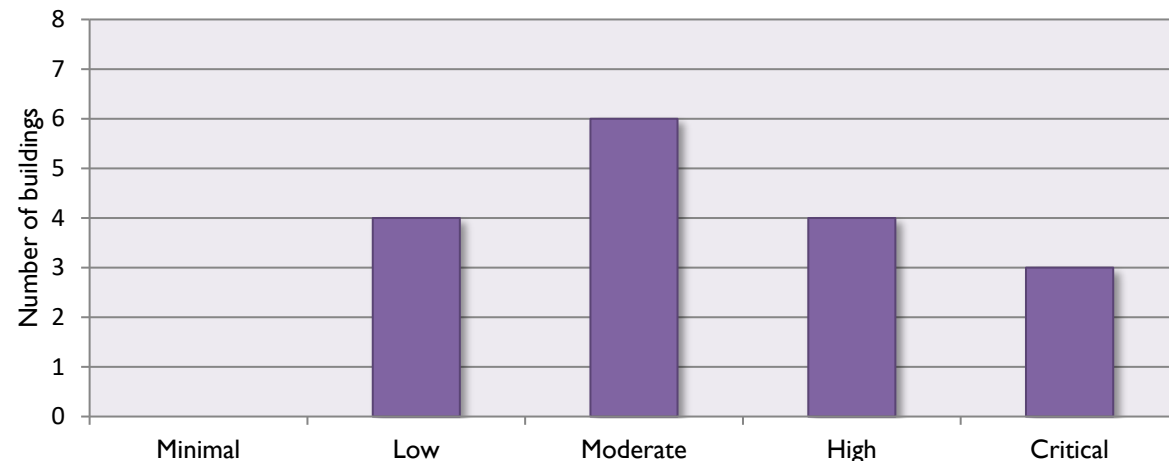


Figure 114 Category of risk of Buildings at Risk in the National Park in 2015 (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, 2015).

Table 30 Buildings on the BARR in the National Park (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, 2015).

	Name	Listing	Condition	Category of Risk	Date of Assessment
Highland	Badden Cottage; Thatched Cottage, Kincaig	C	Very poor	High	13 November 2013
	Cottage at Dalnahaitnach, Carrbridge	Unlisted	Poor	Moderate	28 June 2013
	Cottage at Glenbanchor, Newtonmore	Unlisted	Very poor	Moderate	6 July 2012
	Cottage & Kennels, Woods of Glen Tromie, near Kingussie	Unlisted	Fair	Low	July 2001
	Braeruthven, near Ruthven Barracks, Kingussie	Unlisted	Very poor	Critical	20 July 2009
	Croft Cottage, Blaragie, Laggan	Unlisted	Very poor	High	20 July 2013
	Upper Tullochgrue Farm, Aviemore	Unlisted	Very poor	High	28 June 2013
	Old Cromdale Church of Scotland Manse Steading, Cromdale	B	Very poor	Critical	28 June 2013
	17-19, Castle Road, Grantown-on-Spey	C	Poor	Low	28 June 2013
	Garva Barracks; King's House, Garva Bridge	A	Fair	Low	20 June 2013
Aberdeenshire	55 Golf Road, Ballater	Unlisted	Fair	Low	7 August 2013
	The Old School, School Lane, Ballater	C	Fair	Moderate	7 August 2013
	Queen Victoria's Picnic Lodge, Mar Lodge Estate, Braemar	C	Poor	High	6 August 2013
	Derry Lodge, Mar Lodge Estate, Braemar	C	Fair	Moderate	6 August 2013
	Abergeldie Bridge, Crathie	B	Very poor	Critical	7 August 2013
	6 Castleton Terrace, Braemar	C	Poor	Moderate	6 August 2013
	St Margaret's Episcopal Church (Former), Castleton Terrace, Braemar	A	Poor	Moderate	6 August 2013

The BARR was established in 1990 and is funded and managed by HES.

The BARR lists seventeen Buildings at Risk within the Cairngorms National Park (see **Figure I 13**, **Figure I 14**, **Table 30** and **Figure I 15**). Three of these are in Critical condition, which is the most serious category awarded by the BARR which is the most serious category awarded by the BARR. Critical status is awarded to buildings that are either threatened with demolition, and a real or perceived conservation deficit now makes rescue unlikely or are suffering from an acute structural problem that could lead to full or partial collapse. The status is also awarded to A-listed properties in poor or very poor condition or B-listed properties in very poor condition.

The BARR can be consulted on the Buildings at Risk website:

www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk

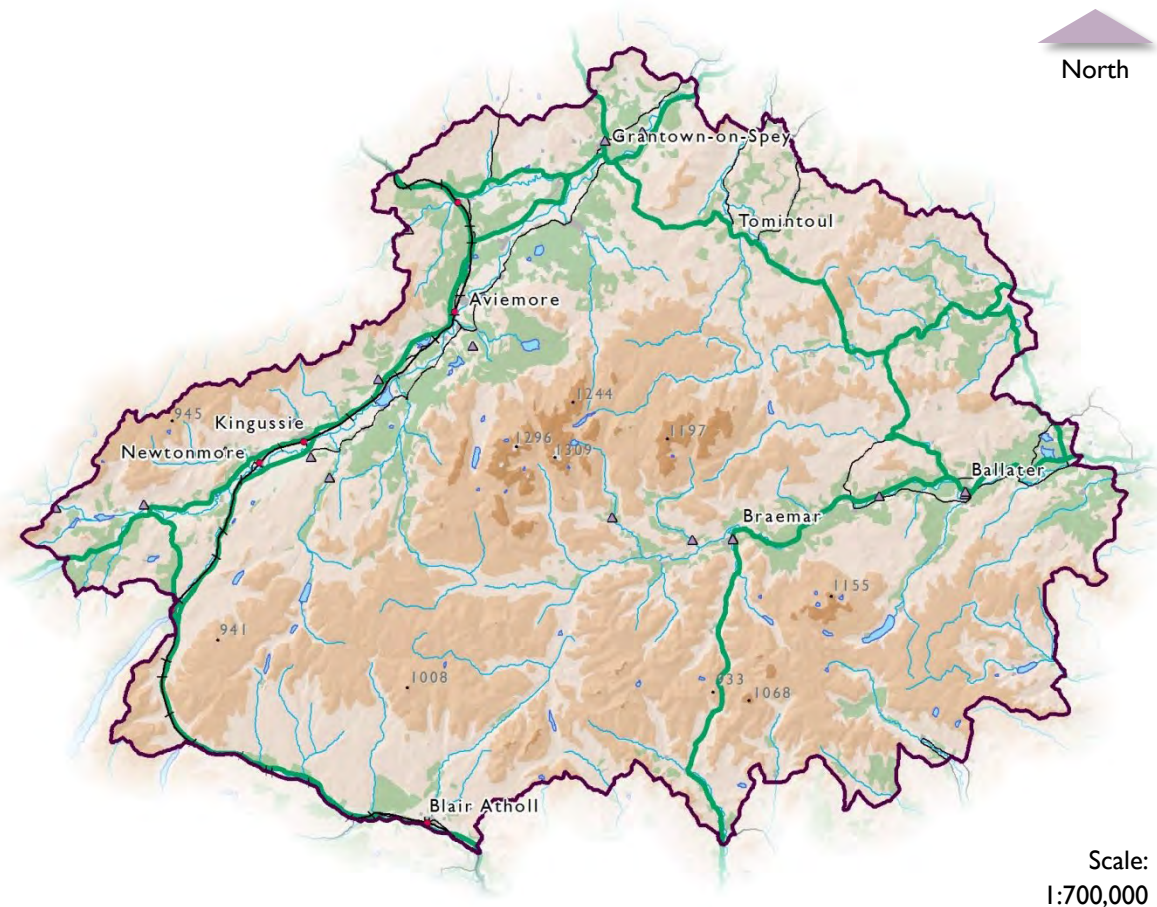


Figure I 15 Location of Buildings at Risk as of 2015 in the Cairngorms National Park.

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Linguistic Heritage

Cultural heritage does not simply manifest itself in the physical remains of past actions or in the evolving morphology of the built form. It also exists as a shared consciousness, which is consumed and reproduced in the mundane interactions of everyday life. Language, be it spoken, or as an elemental feature of the cultural landscape, is a potent vessel in which this heritage is maintained and reproduced. Ultimately, it is a driving force in shaping the way we see the world and the way the world sees us.

Over the past few decades, concern about the global scale and speed of language loss has emerged as a strong theme in the work of a growing number of socio-linguists (Crystal, 2000; Romaine & Nettle, 2000; Skutnabb-Kangas, 2000). UNESCO estimates that there are currently around 3,000 endangered languages in the world (Moseley, 2010). Many of these are undergoing '*language shift*', as speakers cease using a minority language and choose to use a majority language in its place

(Fishman, 1991). While intergenerational transmission is typically seen as the most significant means of language transmission, there are many other factors that may play a part, including economic benefit, perceived status, educational provision and so on (Clyne, 2004; Grin, 2007). As such, the matter of language change has found its way into the policy streams of many tiers of many governments (Ager, 2001; Wright, 2004). Biological and ecological metaphors abound within the field of socio-linguistics, so to say that the emphasis has moved from the *laissez-faire* stance of 'survival of the fittest' to the more interventionist stance position of 'preservation of the species' (Edwards & Newcombe, 2005) describes the evolving state of Scottish language policy and legislation well.

Scotland's linguistic history is complex (MacKinnon, 2000) with the current situation resulting from hundreds of years of population movement and cultural interaction. Located near the centre of the country, and owing to the restrictive nature of its mountainous terrain, the Cairngorms National Park occupies a position where many of these linguistic and cultural differences intersect.

Within the National Park two minority languages, both of which have undergone significant language shift towards English, are still spoken, namely Scottish Gaelic and Scots (MacKinnon, 1991; Withers, 1984; Smith, 2000). The languages belong to contrasting linguistic families, the former being a member of the Goidelic branch of the Insular Celtic family (Price, 2000), the latter being a part of the same dialect continuum as English (Smith, 2000). Gaelic, which was brought to Scotland from Ireland in around AD 500, was once spoken throughout the area. Though the language is now spoken by but a minority (around 370 or 2.2 (see Figure 116 to

Figure 120 for an overview of Gaelic language skills) in the National Park, it is a visible and inseparable part of the area's identity, as it continues to dominate the names of places, both built and natural.

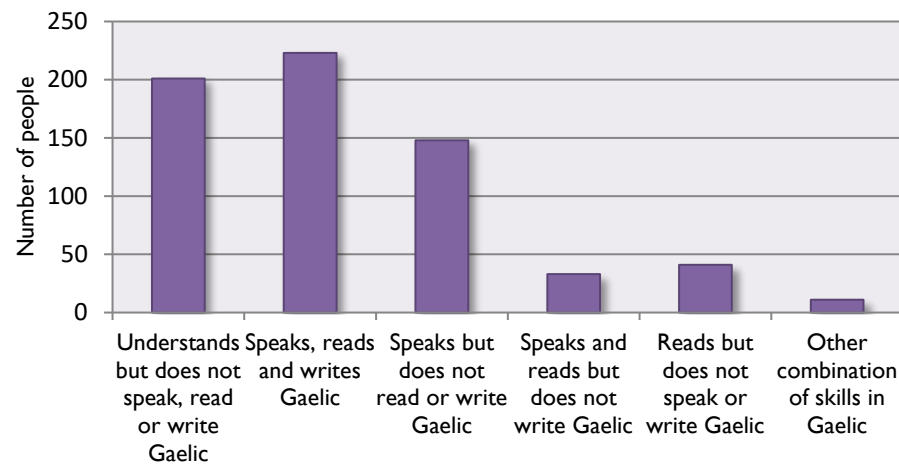


Figure I I 6 Gaelic language skills for all people aged 3 and over in the Cairngorms National Park (Census table QS2I ISC).

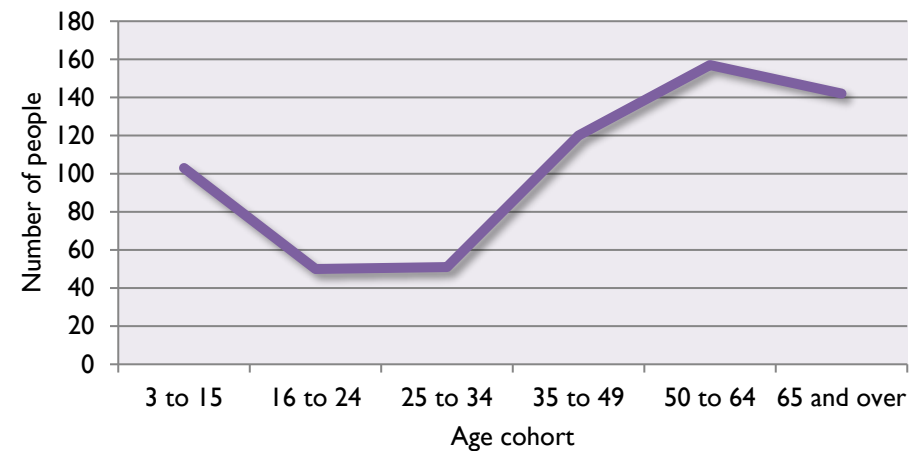


Figure I I 7 Age profile of the Cairngorms National Park population who can understand, speak, read or write Gaelic (Census table LC2I20SCdz).

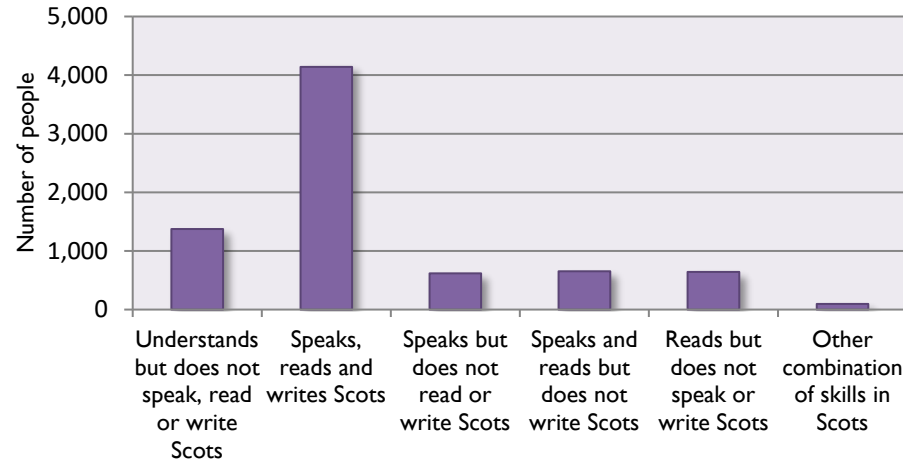


Figure I I 8 Scots language skills for all people aged 3 and over in the Cairngorms National Park (Census table QS2I2SC).

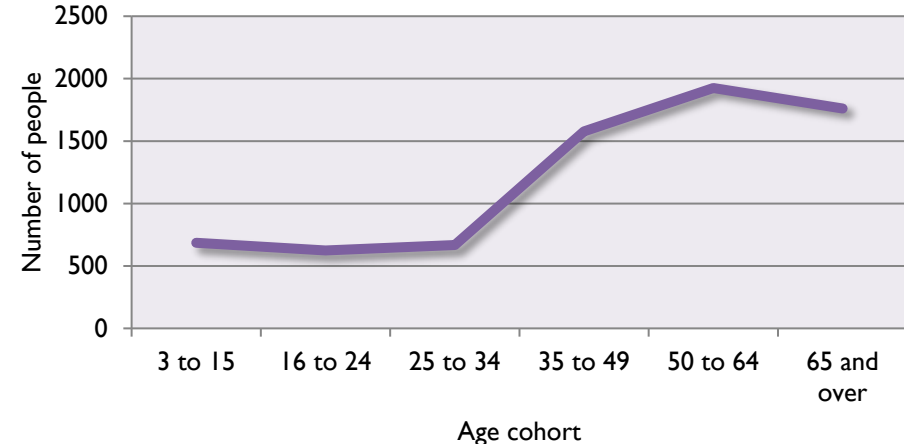


Figure I I 9 Age profile of the Cairngorms National Park population who can understand, speak, read or write Scots (Census table LC2I2ISC).

Crown copyright 2013. For further information on variables, see www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/variables.

Nevertheless, it is classified by UNESCO as being ‘Definitely endangered’¹¹ (Moseley, 2010). Currently, the CNPA seeks to support the Gaelic language through its Gaelic Language Plan (Cairngorms National Park Authority, 2013). Scots, which takes the form of its Northern / North-eastern dialect, Doric (McColl Millar, 2007), is also spoken throughout the National Park, but is stronger in the east where the influence of the lowlands is greatest. The language has also seen a fall in use since its apex in the Medieval period (Smith, 2000), with around 5,400 (29.3%) of the National Park’s population claiming to be able to speak it in 2011 (see **Figure 118**, **Figure 119**,

¹¹ UNESCO has established six degrees of endangerment that ‘may be distinguished with regard to intergenerational transmission’, namely, ‘Safe’, ‘Stable yet threatened’, ‘Vulnerable’, ‘Definitely endangered’, ‘Severely endangered’, ‘Critically endangered’ and ‘Extinct’. In the case of Gaelic’s

status as a ‘Definitely endangered’ language, this means it is predominantly no longer being learned as a mother tongue by children in the home. The youngest speakers are thus of the parental generation. At this stage, parents may still speak their language to their children, but children do not typically respond to the language. In the case of Scots as a ‘Vulnerable’ language, this means that most, but not all children of families of a particular community speak their parental language as a first language, but this may be restricted to specific social domains (UNESCO, 2003).

Figure 120 and **Figure 122** for an overview of Scots language skills). It is classified by UNESCO as being ‘Vulnerable’.

Despite apparently having a greater number of speakers than Gaelic, an analysis of the Scots language skills remains difficult. Firstly, the 2011 Census was the first to collect information on the Scots language and therefore no detailed information on trends is available. Secondly, research carried out prior to the census suggested that people vary considerably in their interpretation of what is meant by “Scots” and that it is therefore likely that the census statistics reflect a very broad definition of the language. The number and proportion of both Gaelic and Scots speakers is therefore low within the Cairngorms National Park and it should be recognised that the CNPA is extremely limited in its ability to influence language use and acquisition. However, the LDP may play an indirect role in language maintenance through its ability to shape the National Park’s sense of place.

A sense of place may be defined at its simplest as the human interpretation of

space (Tewdwr-Jones, 2002) and therefore the linguistic landscape, be it in the form of visible displays on advertisements or signage, or interpreted through the names written on maps or in literature, may form a strong part of this interpretation (Coupland, 2012). Place-names, for example, can offer a strong insight into the culture, history, environment and wildlife of an area. Public displays of language, which may be framed within the context of bilingualism, and which may form part of the broader cultural landscape, can play an important role in generating cultural norms such as the use of a minority language, effectively creating an environment in which the language is a prominent day to day feature of the environment (Adam, 1998; Urban, 2001; Shein, 1997; Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, 2004; Coupland & Garrett, 2010; Bauman & Briggs, 1990).

In turn, there is a perception that in the case of Gaelic at least, there is an economic benefit in the public use and display of the language. It is estimated that the potential economic value of Gaelic to the Scottish economy is in the region of between £82 million and £149 million (DC Research, 2014).

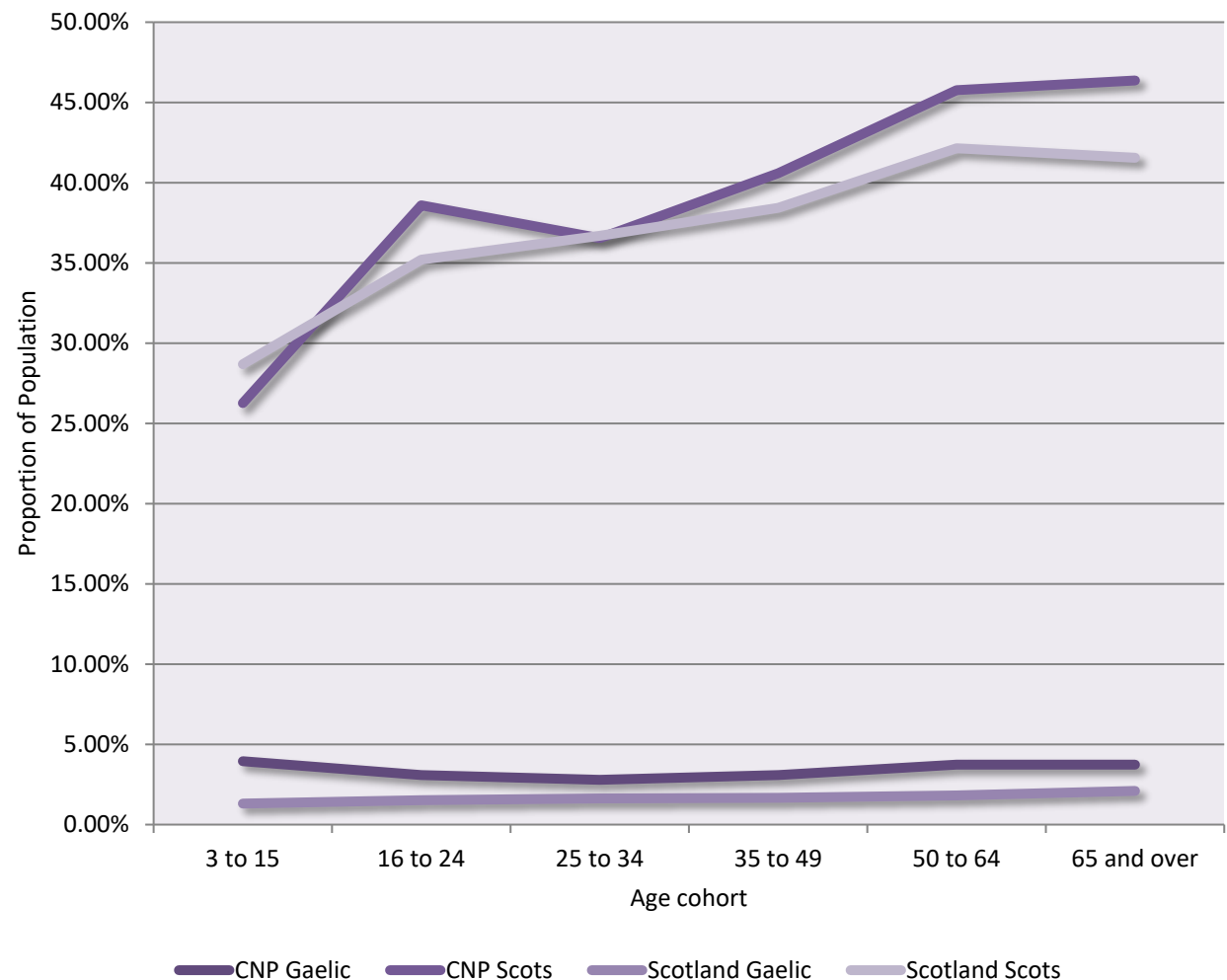


Figure 120 Proportionate age profiles of the Cairngorms National Park and Scottish populations who can understand, speak, read or write Gaelic or Scots (Census tables LD2120SCdz and LC2121SC).

Crown copyright 2013. For further information on variables, see www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/variables

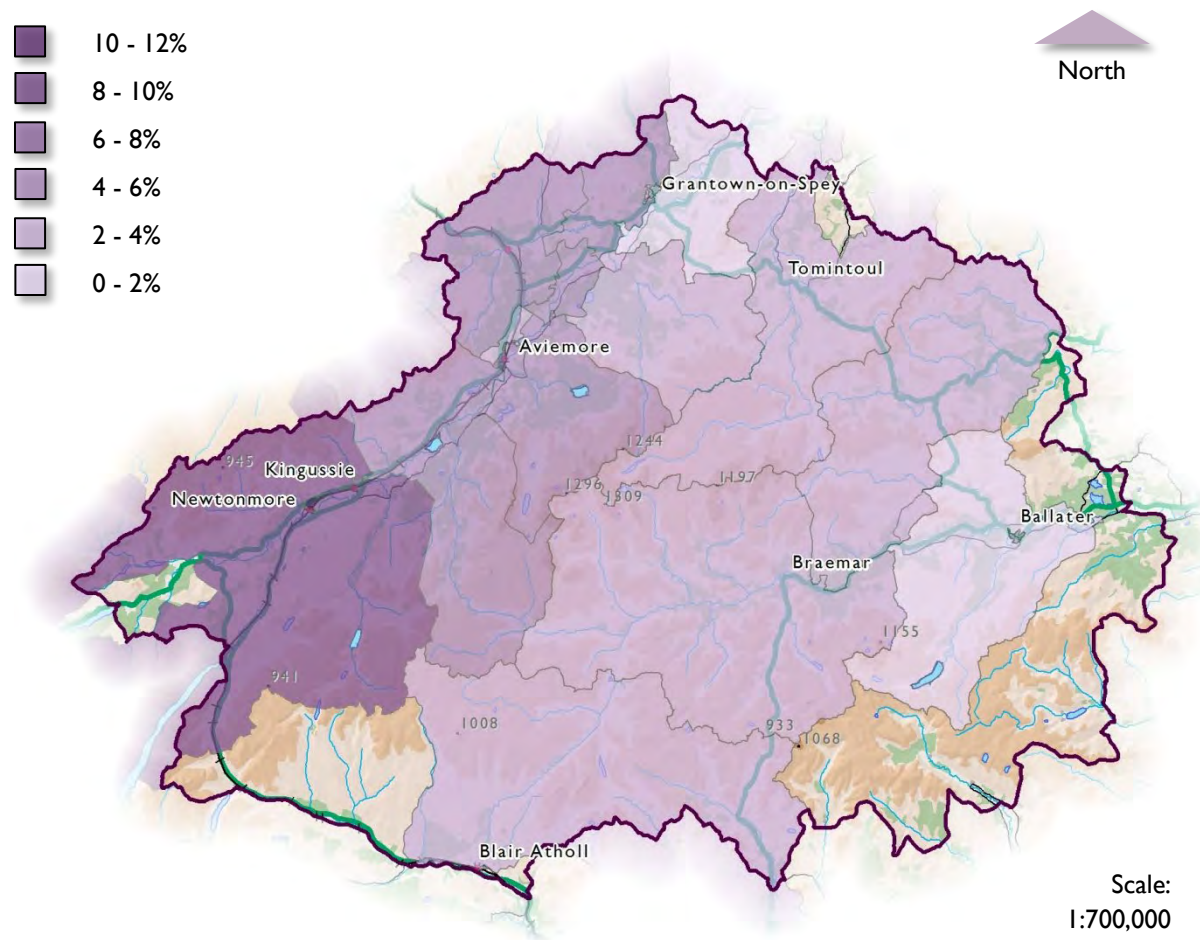


Figure 121 Proportion of people aged 3 and over with any combination of Gaelic language Skills (the sum of the skills outlined in Figure 116) (Census table QS211SC).

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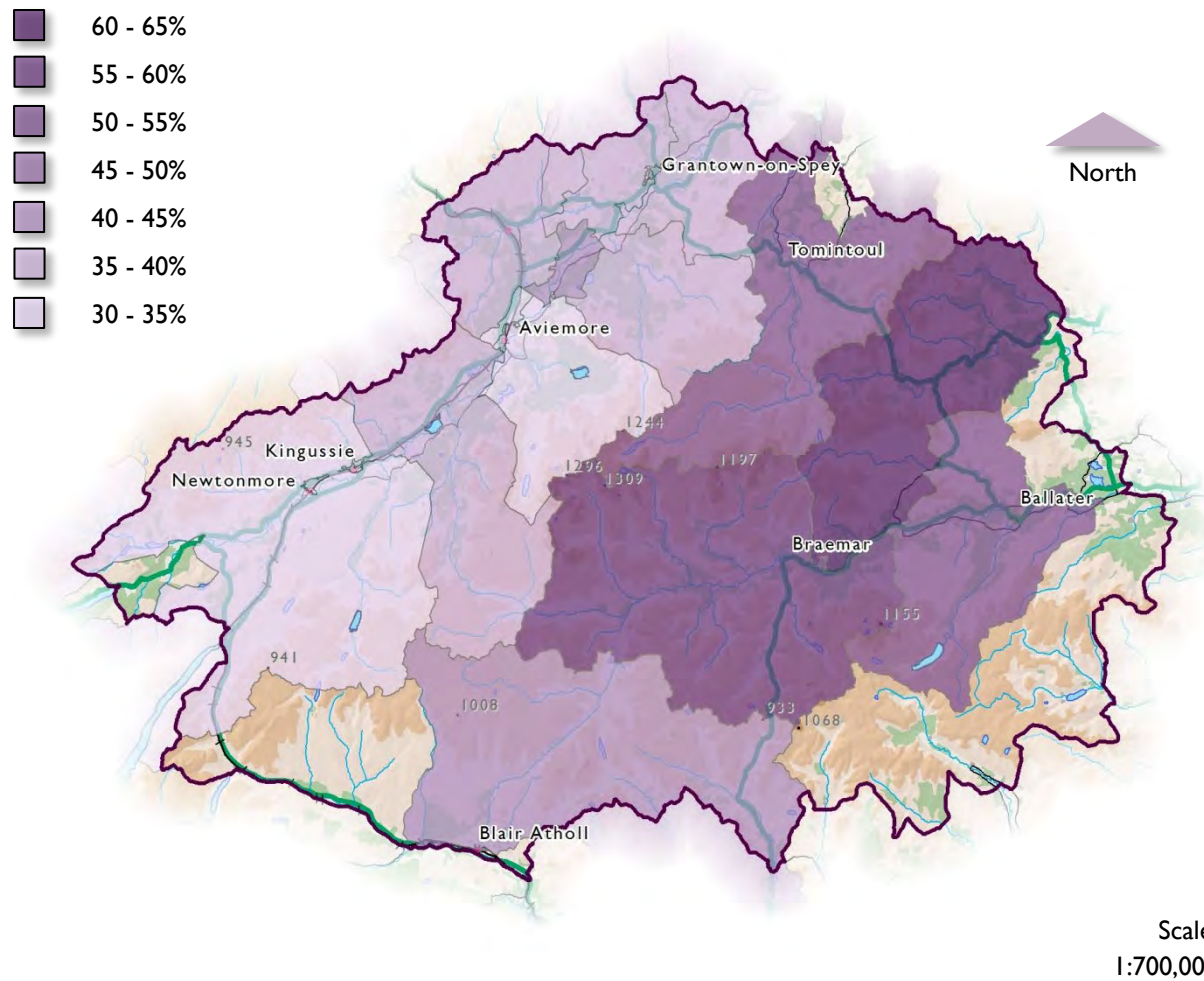
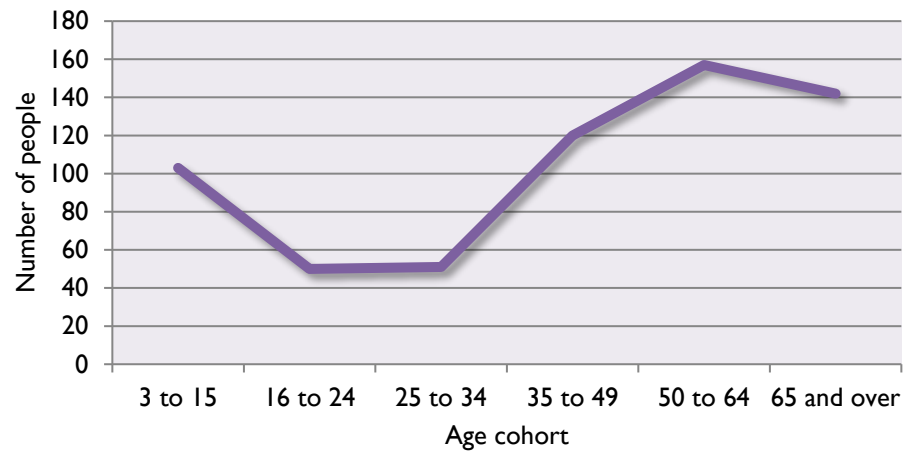


Figure 122 Proportion of people aged 3 and over with any combination of Scots language Skills (the sum of the skills outlined in



) (Census table Q212SC).

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Key Messages

At 4,528 square kilometres, and comprising 6% of Scotland's land area, the Cairngorms National Park is the UK's largest protected landscape. It is without doubt one of the UK's finest environments and possess a range of special qualities, often unique to the area. Furthermore, nearly half of the National Park's land area is classified as being 'wild land'.

The cultural heritage of the National Park is also rich, with it being home to thousands of historic structures, buildings and archaeological remains. There are numerous areas protected by some form of historic designation, including Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Designated Landscapes and Gardens and Battlefield Inventory Sites.

The National Park also possesses less tangible cultural assets, such as the 370 Gaelic and 5,400 Scots speakers.

One of the National Park's aims is to "to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area" and therefore the LDP will have to carefully consider its potential effects on these assets.

Inter-relationships with other topics

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Topic 8: Population and Human Health

Population

Population statistics within the Cairngorms National Park are calculated using an aggregate of data zones that roughly correspond with its boundary. For full details on how these data zones are collected, see **Appendix 3** (p. 323).

Population and Households

In 2014¹² the estimated population of the National Park was 18,594, with 9,186 males and 9,408 females.

The National Park has a distinctly different population profile to the national (**Figure 123** and **Figure 124**), with a higher proportion of people falling within the 55 to 74 age cohorts. When compared to other rural parts of Scotland, the Cairngorms National Park also has a relatively high proportion of residents

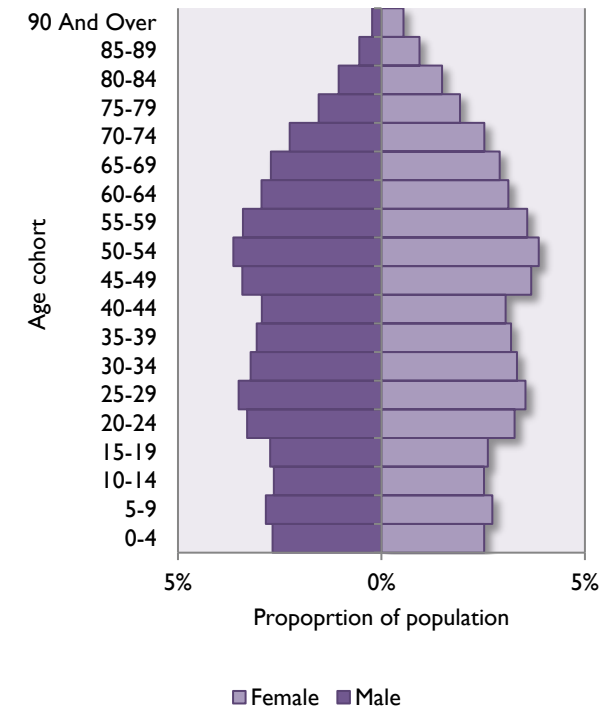
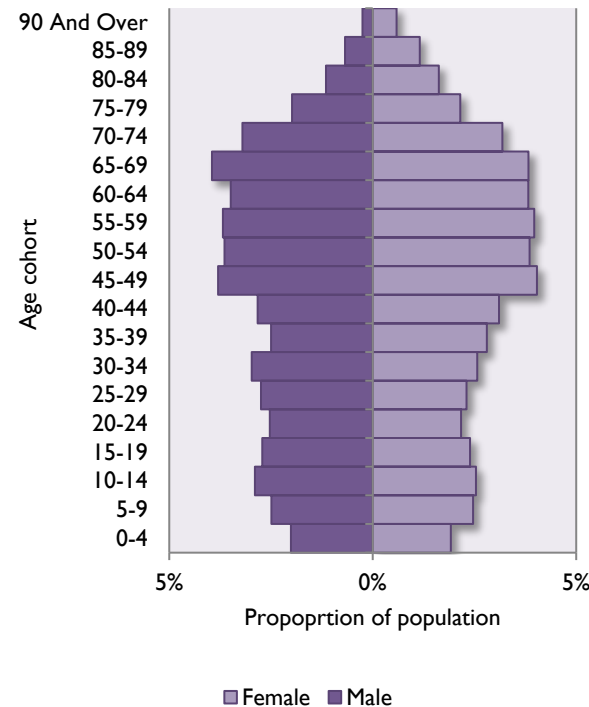


Figure 123 Estimated population profile by age and sex in the Cairngorms National Park in 2017. Figure 124 Estimated population profile by age and sex in Scotland in 2017.

Source: www.sns.gov.uk

within the 10 to 29 age cohorts (see NRS (2014)). This is thought to be due to the relatively high number of opportunities for employment in the outdoor and tourism sectors. There is also a spike in the 10 to 15 year cohort, which is replicated across Scotland as a whole.

Although mid-year estimates suggest a slowdown in the rate of growth between 2011 and 2014, during the 21st century¹³, the National Park has experienced a significant net increase in its resident population, rising by approximately 2,261 persons (a growth of 13.8%) (**Figure 125**). This growth is well above the overall Scottish rate, which saw a net increase of around 5.6% over the same period.

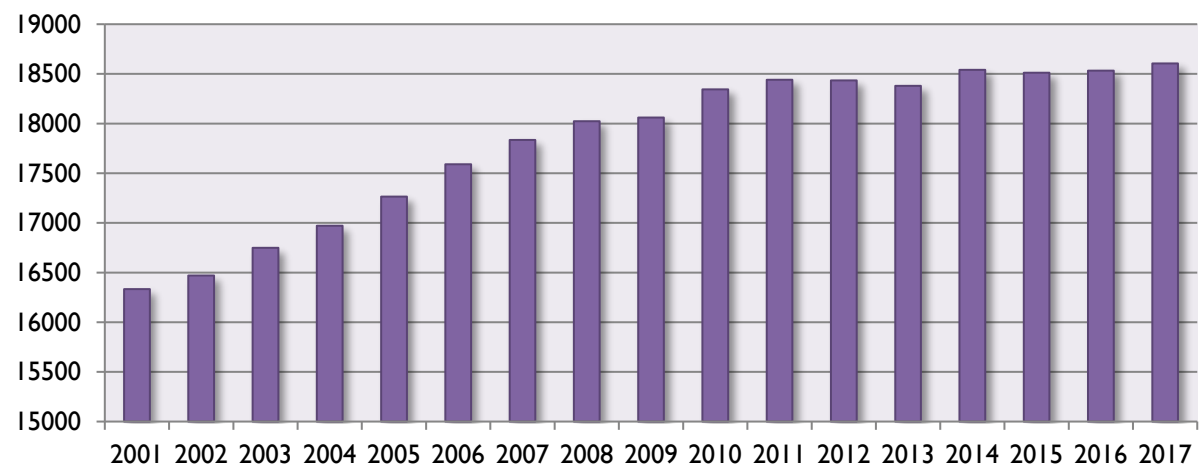


Figure 125 Mid-year estimates of total population for the Cairngorms National Park. Source: www.sns.gov.uk

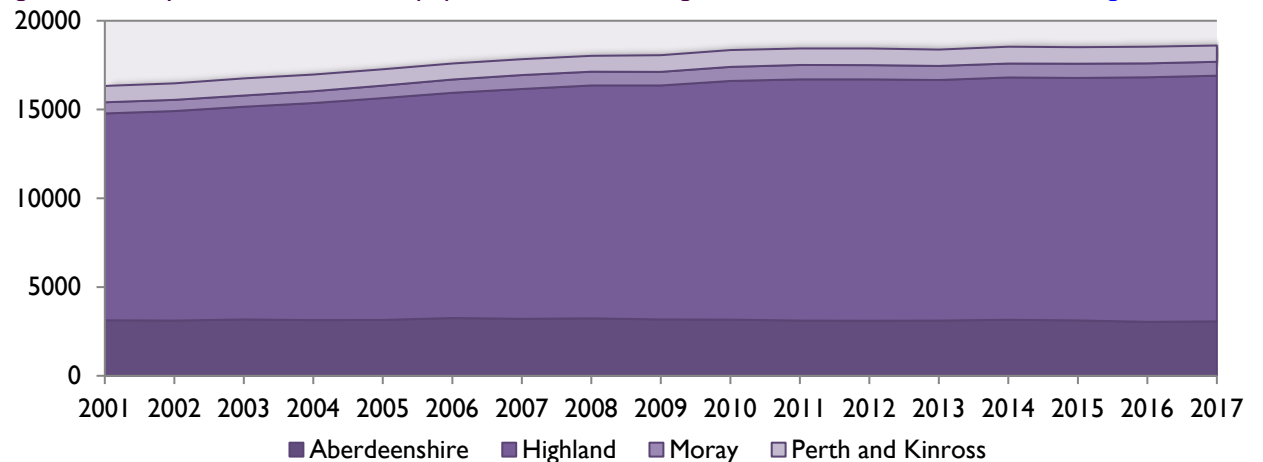


Figure 126 Mid-year estimates of total population for the Cairngorms National Park distributed by Local Authority Area. Source: www.sns.gov.uk

This growth has not been evenly distributed throughout the National Park (**Figure 126** and **Figure 127**). Indeed, the overall population in data zones within Aberdeenshire and Perth and Kinross has remained relatively stable.

The greatest increase occurred within Aviemore, which is estimated to have grown by around 1,009 people. Proportionally this represents a growth of around 142%. Most of Badenoch and Strathspey also experienced growth, gaining an estimated 1,014 people. Taken together, this addition of 2,023 persons resulted in the Highland area of the National Park growing by 17.4%.

Although net population change within the National Park has been positive, certain areas experienced a reduction in the population. For example, the population of datazone S01000312, which represents part of Ballater, lost around 93 persons (-14.5%). It is unclear if this represents a genuine trend or is a result of methodical or sampling changes to the mid-year estimate methodology.

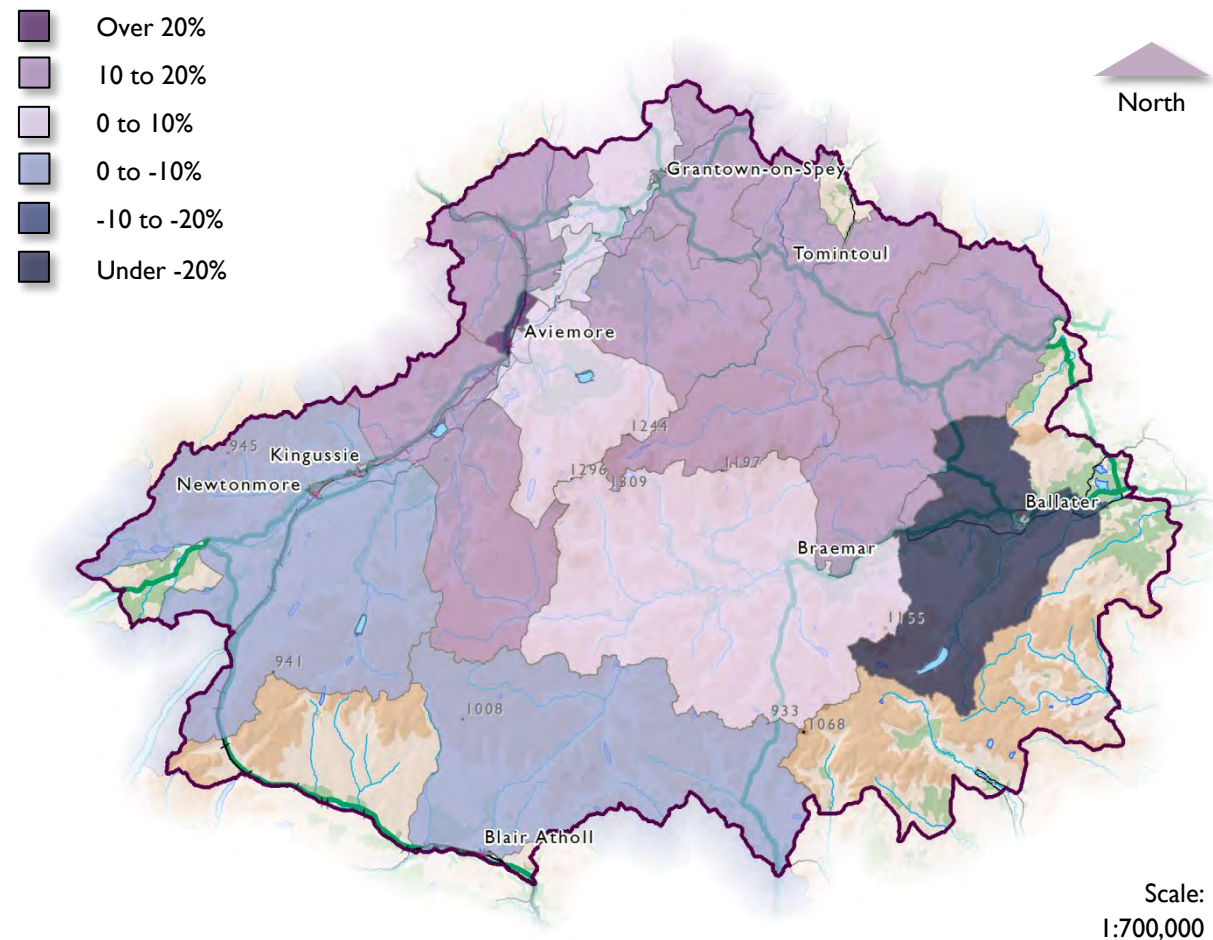


Figure 127 Population change within the Cairngorms National Park between 2001 and 2017 (based on mid-year estimates).

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National Park Projections

Population projections for the National Park are produced by National Records of Scotland (NRS), with the most recent being 2014 based projections, published in October 2016. NRS's (2016) principal projection is that between 2014 and 2039, the population of Cairngorms National Park will drop from 19,010 to 18,337 (a decrease of around 4%) (**Figure 128**).

This projection is in contrast to the level of growth experienced previously and indeed NRS' 2012 based principle projection, which projected a growth in the population of around 1%.

Population projections are calculations showing what happens under certain assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration. Household projections also incorporate information on trends of household formation.

The assumptions in NRS' projections continue these past trends in local fertility, mortality, migration and household formation. They do not take account of any

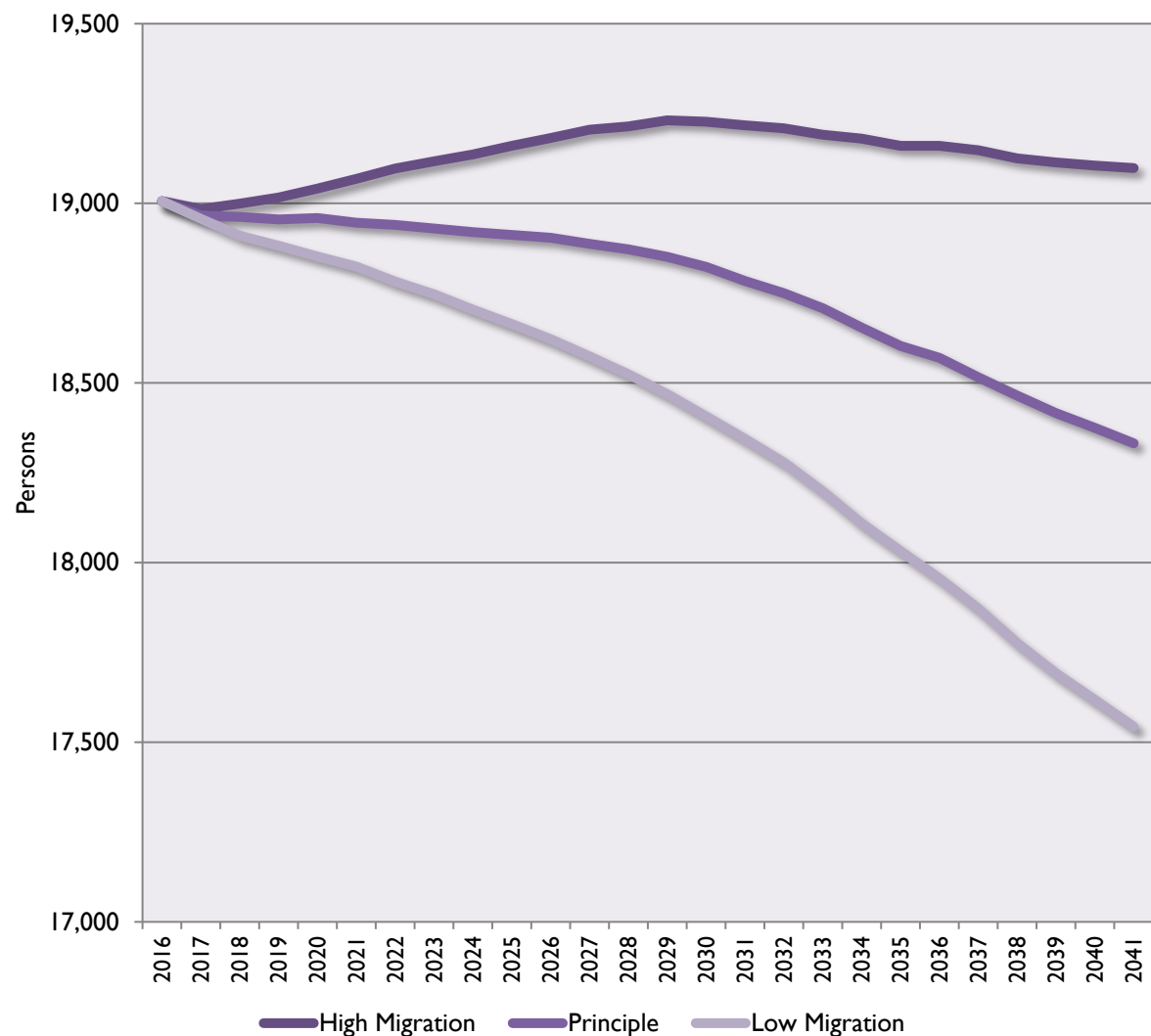


Figure 128 Estimated and projected total population of the National Park, 2016-2041 (NRS, 20185).

future changes that may occur as a result of policy initiatives, social or economic change. They will reflect past policy changes and trends in house building, but they do not incorporate information on planned future policy changes or house building. For example, an area may have had a high level of house building over the last few years, which is now coming to an end, but the projections would show a continuation of the past trends. These projections are not, therefore, forecasts of what the government expects to happen.

Table 31 shows the principle projected percentage population change for the National Park and compares the projected rates of natural change and migration across areas between 2014 and 2039.

The population of the National Park is projected to decrease despite positive projected net migration to the area over the projection period. This is because the number of deaths is projected to exceed the number of births. This is largely due to the age structure of the population in these areas.

Table 31 Components of projected population change for the Cairngorms National Park, Principle projection 2016 to 2039 (NRS, 2018).

Natural Change	Net migration	Population change (percentage)
-1,914	1,505	-3.5

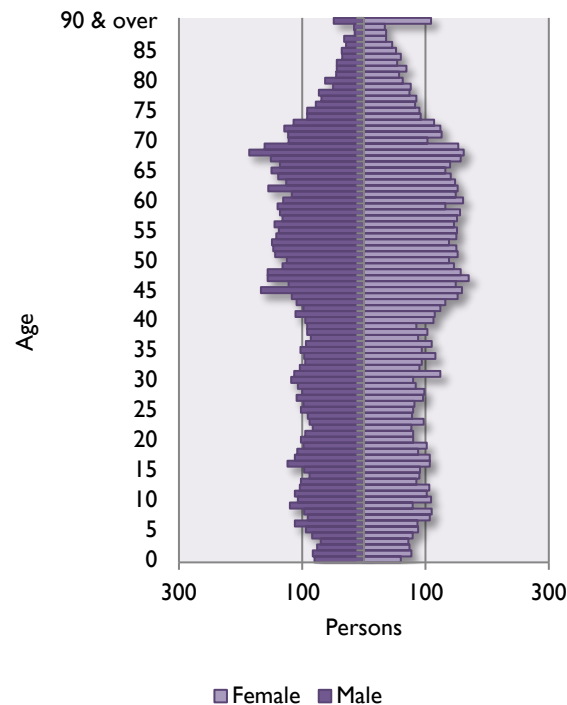


Figure 129 Estimated population profile by age and sex in the Cairngorms National Park in 2016 (NRS, 2018).

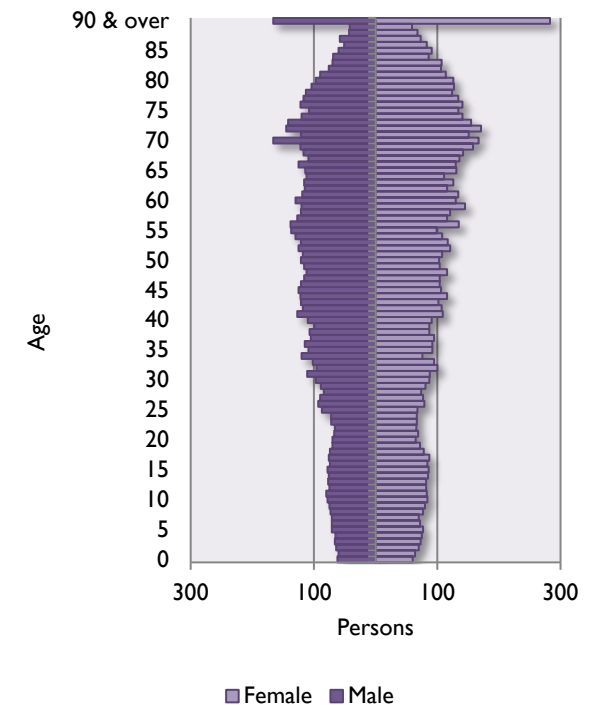


Figure 130 Projected population profile by age and sex in the Cairngorms National Park in 2041 (NRS, 2018).

NRS (2016) also give an indication of how the age structure of the population might change (**Figure 129** and **Figure 130**).

According to the principal migration scenario, the number of children aged under 16 is projected to decrease by 21% over the projection period from 3,030 in 2014 to 2,383 in 2039. The number of people of working age is projected to decrease from 11,250 in 2014 to 10,178 in 2039, a decrease of 10%. The population of pensionable age is projected to rise by 23% from 4,730 in 2014 to 5,776 in 2039.

However, the number of people aged 75 and over is projected to rise from 1,782 in 2014 to 3,505 in 2039, an increase of 97%. By 2039 the population is projected to be more heavily distributed at older ages.

Household projections for the National Park remain to be 2012 based (National Records Scotland, 2014) until new projections are released in May 2017.

These suggest that households are set to increase from 7,870 in 2012 to 8,780 in 2037, an increase of 12% (**Table 32** and **Figure 131**).

Table 32 Household projections for the Cairngorms National, by type of household, 2016 to 2041 (NRS, 2018).

Household Type	2016	2041	Change 2016-2041	
1 adult	2,879	3,393	+514	18%
2 adults	3,189	3,360	+171	5%
1 adult with children	460	593	+133	29%
2+ adults with children	1,521	1,409	-112	-7%
3+ adults	566	423	-143	-25%
All households	8,615	9,178	+563	7%

Given the limited nature of the projected population growth associated with these, it is clear that it does not entirely explain the projected change in the number of households. Indeed, the difference between the household and population projections is due to the trend in more people living alone or in smaller households. In the Cairngorms National Park, the average household size is projected to drop from 2.12 people in 2014 to 1.91 people in 2039 (Figure 132).

Sub-council Area Projections

In 2016 the National Records of Scotland published the results of a one-off research project to produce population and household projections for sub-council areas (Figure 133).

Additional caution should be taken for sub-council area projections because small areas show more short-term change than larger areas and in the projections, these trends are continued for the length of the projection. As the process of change is cumulative, the reliability of projections decreases over time and for this reason

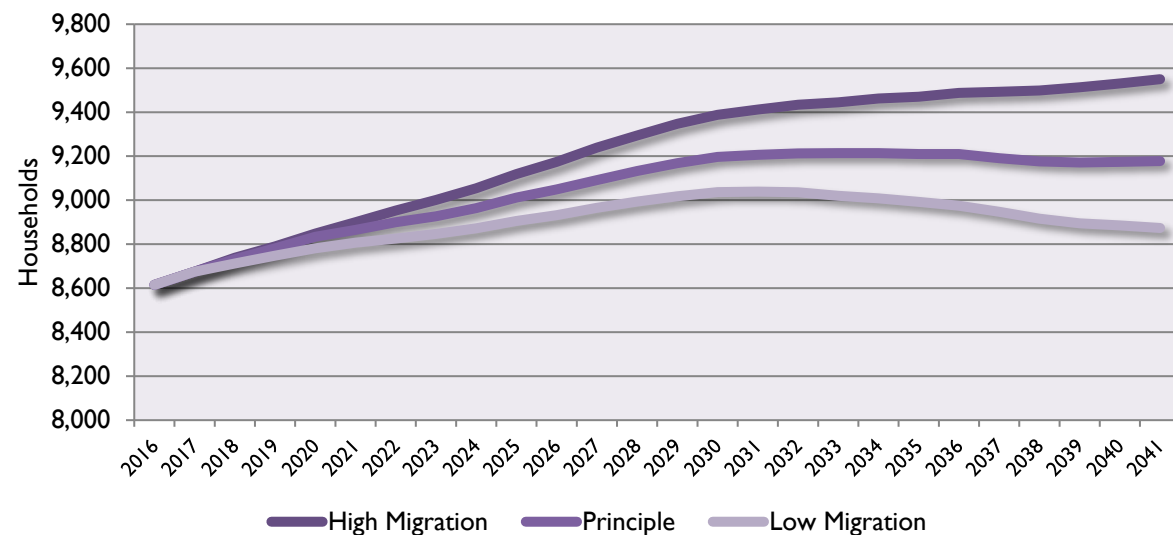


Figure 131 Overall household projections for the Cairngorms National Parks, 2016 to 2041 (NRS, 2018).

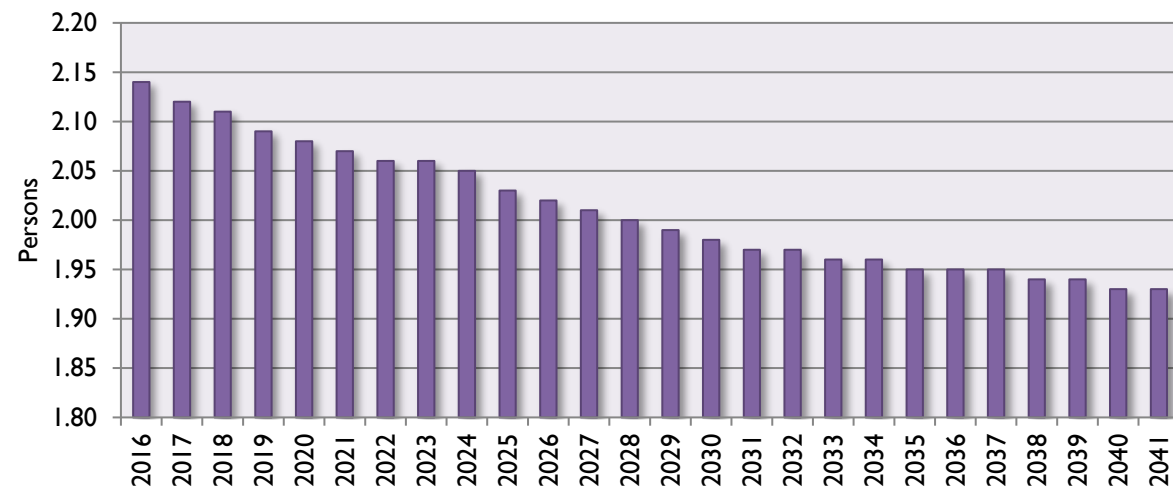


Figure 132 Projected household size for the Cairngorms National Park, 2016 to 2041 (NRS, 2018).

caution should be used when considering these projections in the longer-term.

Therefore, although projections have been prepared to 2037 (25 years ahead), in line with the sub-national projections at council area and National Park level, the main results are reported to 2026. Projections become more uncertain the further ahead they project, especially for smaller areas, as these populations are affected more by the migration assumptions, therefore the results to 2026 are considered more reliable than the longer-term projections and are presented in this report (**Table 33**).

The sub-council areas are not consistent in size, varying from base populations of 2,100 to 79,000; with the average area having a population at mid-2012 of 17,700. The larger areas tend to be in urban areas and the smallest in rural areas.

The only sub-council area that is contiguous with the National Park boundary is Badenoch and Strathspey. Due to the very small populations within them, the other

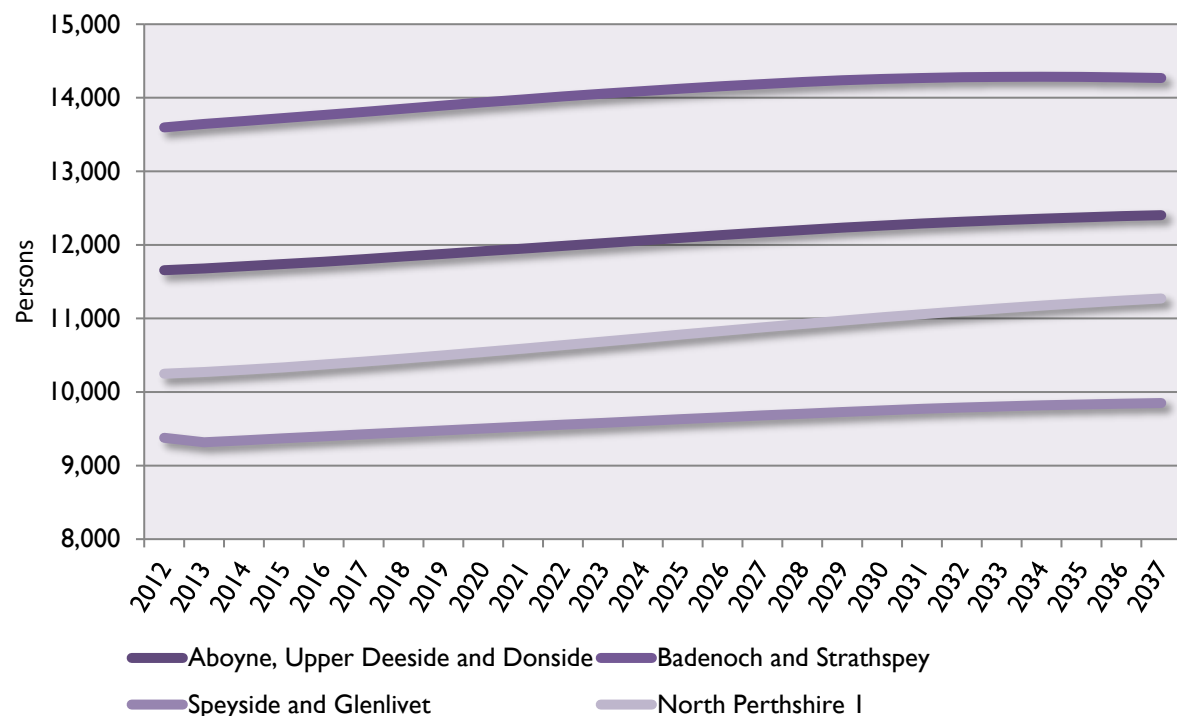


Figure 133 Population projections for sub-council areas within and overlapping the National Park (NRS, 2016).

Table 33 Projected population change for sub-council areas within and overlapping the National Park (NRS, 2016)

Local Authority	Sub-council Area	2012	2026	Change
Aberdeenshire	Aboyne, Upper Deeside and Donside	11,656	12,134	4.1%
Highland	Badenoch and Strathspey	13,597	14,158	4.1%
Moray	Speyside and Glenlivet	9,377	9,657	3.0%
PKC	North Perthshire I	10,249	10,831	5.7%

local Authority areas of the National Park form part of larger statistical areas:

- The Aberdeenshire part of the National Park forms part of a larger area that includes Aboyne;
- The Moray part of the National Park forms part of a larger area that includes most of Speyside, including Aberlour and Dufftown;
- The Perth & Kinross are of the National Park forms part of a large rural area that includes towns such as Pitlochry and Aberfeldy;
- The Angus part of the National Park forms part of a large rural area that includes Kirriemuir and Dean.

Because the Angus part of the National Park only contains 20 occupied dwellings, the sub-council projections for the area will not be considered within this report.

Figure 133 and **Table 33** indicate that the level of population change will differ between the different sub-council areas. Caution should however be exercised when drawing conclusions about the National Park, particularly when the majority of area's population is located outside the

National Park. For example, according to 2012 mid-year estimates only around 27% of Aboyne, Upper Deeside and Donside's, 9% of Speyside and Glenlivet's and 9% of North Perthshire 1's population live within the National Park. It is likely therefore that the projections for these areas are not representative of the National Park's population.

The projections for Badenoch and Strathspey are however useful, since according to the Highland Council (2015), only 97.6% of the area's housing stock is located within the National Park. We may therefore take a closer look at the projections for this area.

NRS (2016) project that between 2012 and 2026 the population of Badenoch will rise from 13,597 to 14,158. The projections also give an indication of how the area's age structure might change (**Figure 134**, **Figure 135** and **Figure 136**). The number of children aged under 16 is projected to decrease by 12% over the projection period from 2,270 in 2012 to 2,001 in 2026. The number of people of working age is

projected to decrease from 8,583 in 2012 to 8,538 in 2026, a decrease of 1%. The population of pensionable age is projected to rise by 32% from 2,744 in 2012 to 3,618 in 2026.

Household projections for the sub-council areas are available on the basis of seven household types, based on the number of adults and children living in the household, and sixteen age groups. This is equivalent to the main household projections.

This combination of household types, age groups and areas means that the figures for some individual groups are extremely small. For example, there are very few households in the whole of Scotland which contain one adult aged 75-79 and one child. Therefore, in every sub-council area some combinations of household type and age group have extremely small figures, or zeros.

This information is not considered 'disclosive' as the projections do not refer to individual households. However, recognising that projections for small

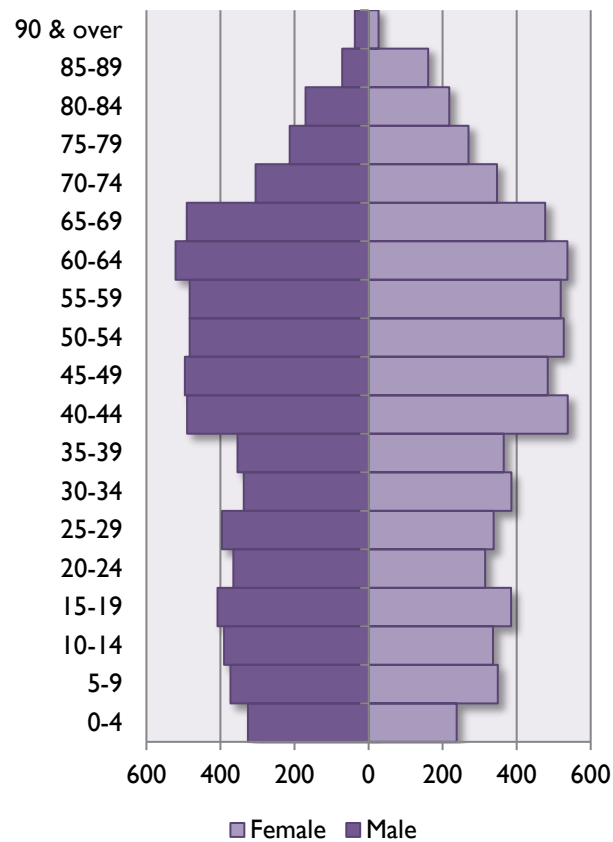


Figure 134 Estimated population profile by age and sex in Badenoch and Strathspey in 2012 (NRS, 2016).

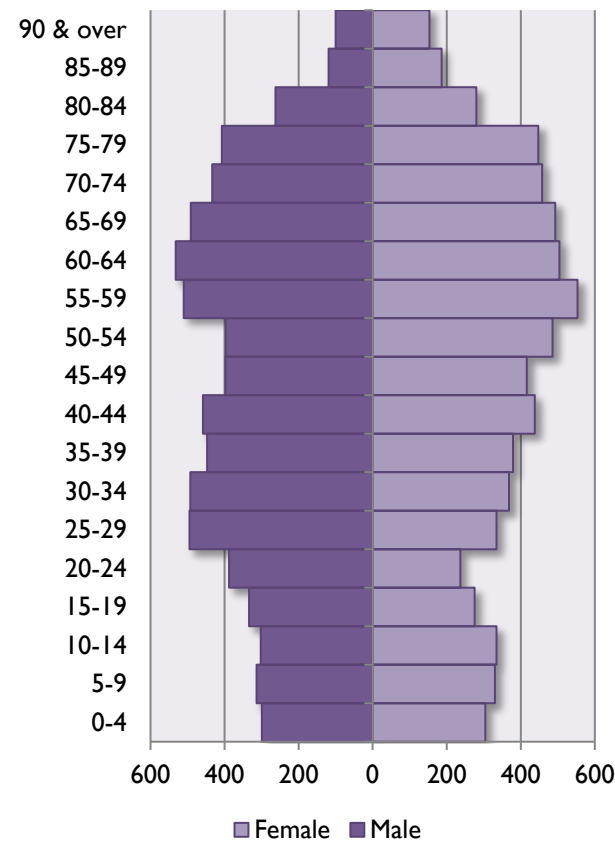


Figure 135 Projected population profile by age and sex in Badenoch and Strathspey in 2026 (NRS, 2016).

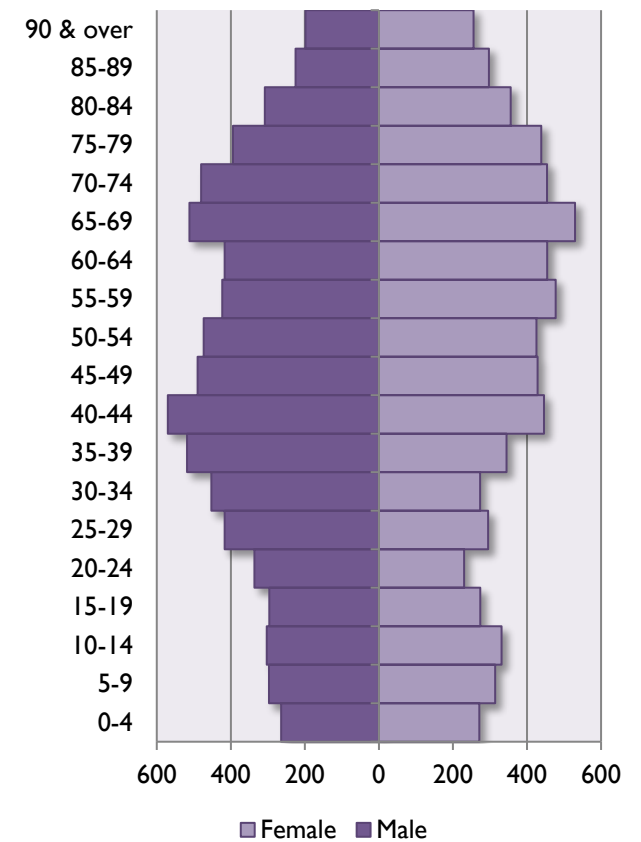


Figure 136 Projected population profile by age and sex in Badenoch and Strathspey in 2037 (NRS, 2016).

groups are likely to be less reliable than those for larger groups, the projections within this report have been grouped into broader household types.

In geographical terms, the same caveats apply to the household projections as the population projections. That is, since most households within the Aberdeenshire, Moray and Perth and Kinross areas are located outwith the National Park, caution should be taken when considering their projections within the National Park context. Therefore, while **Figure 137** and **Table 34** provide useful information about broader demographic changes, only the Badenoch and Strathspey area deserves greater analysis.

The projections suggest that households in Badenoch and Strathspey are set to increase from 5,982 in 2012 to 6,688 in 2026, an increase of around 12% (**Figure 137**). During this period households with 2 adults with children are set to fall from around 1,117 to 1,094, a drop of around 2%. Households with three adults or more are also projected to fall, from 429 to 378,

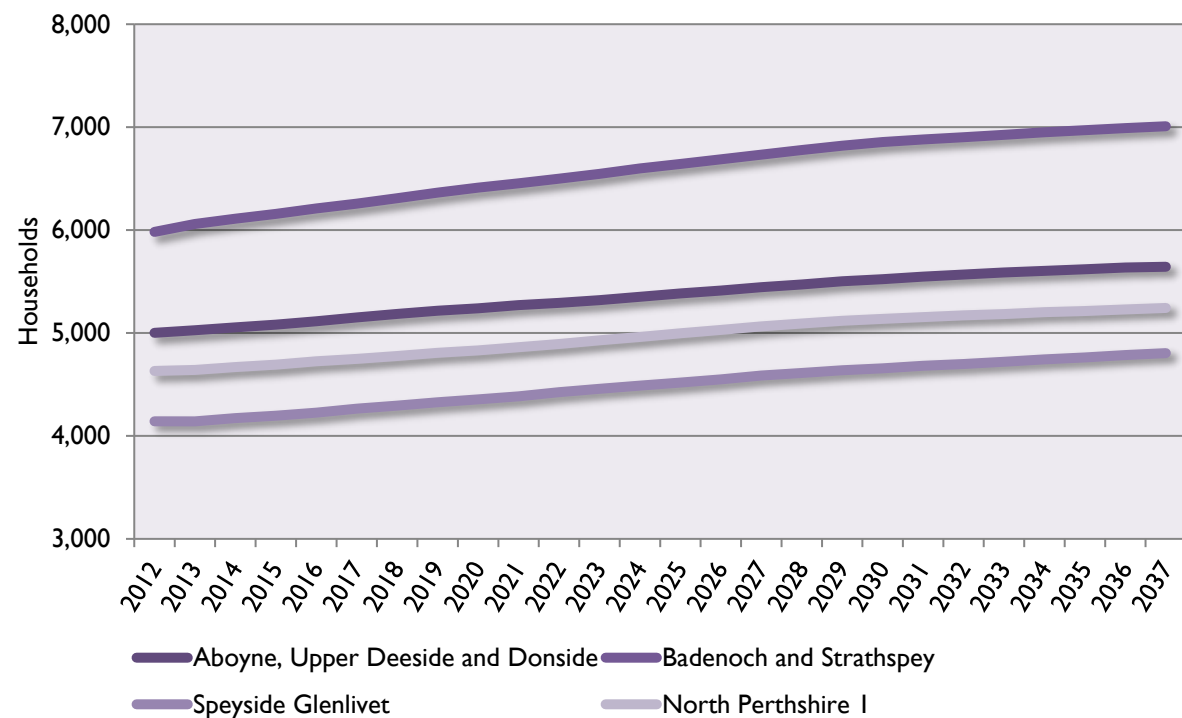


Figure 137 Overall household projections for sub-council areas within and overlapping the National Park (NRS, 2016).

Table 34 Projected household change for sub-council areas within and overlapping the National Park (NRS, 2016)

Local Authority	Sub-council Area	2012	2026	Change
Aberdeenshire	Aboyne, Upper Deeside and Donside	5,002	5,413	8.2%
Highland	Badenoch and Strathspey	5,982	6,688	11.8%
Moray	Speyside and Glenlivet	4,142	4,550	9.9%
PKC	North Perthshire I	4,631	5,030	8.6%

representing a more significant proportional decrease of 12% (**Figure 138**). All other household types are projected to grow, with 1 adult households (1,965 to 2,351; 20%) and single parent households (320 to 378; 18%) seeing the greatest proportional increases.

Housing Deprivation

The relationship between the availability of good quality housing and the health and well-being of people is now well recognised (National Housing Federation, 2014; Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, 2011).

For example, children who are brought up in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, in poor quality housing or insecure accommodation are more likely to be exposed to avoidable health risks such as damp, cold, accidents, community safety concerns, inadequate pre-school and early-years provision, poor schools, and a lack of safe play areas

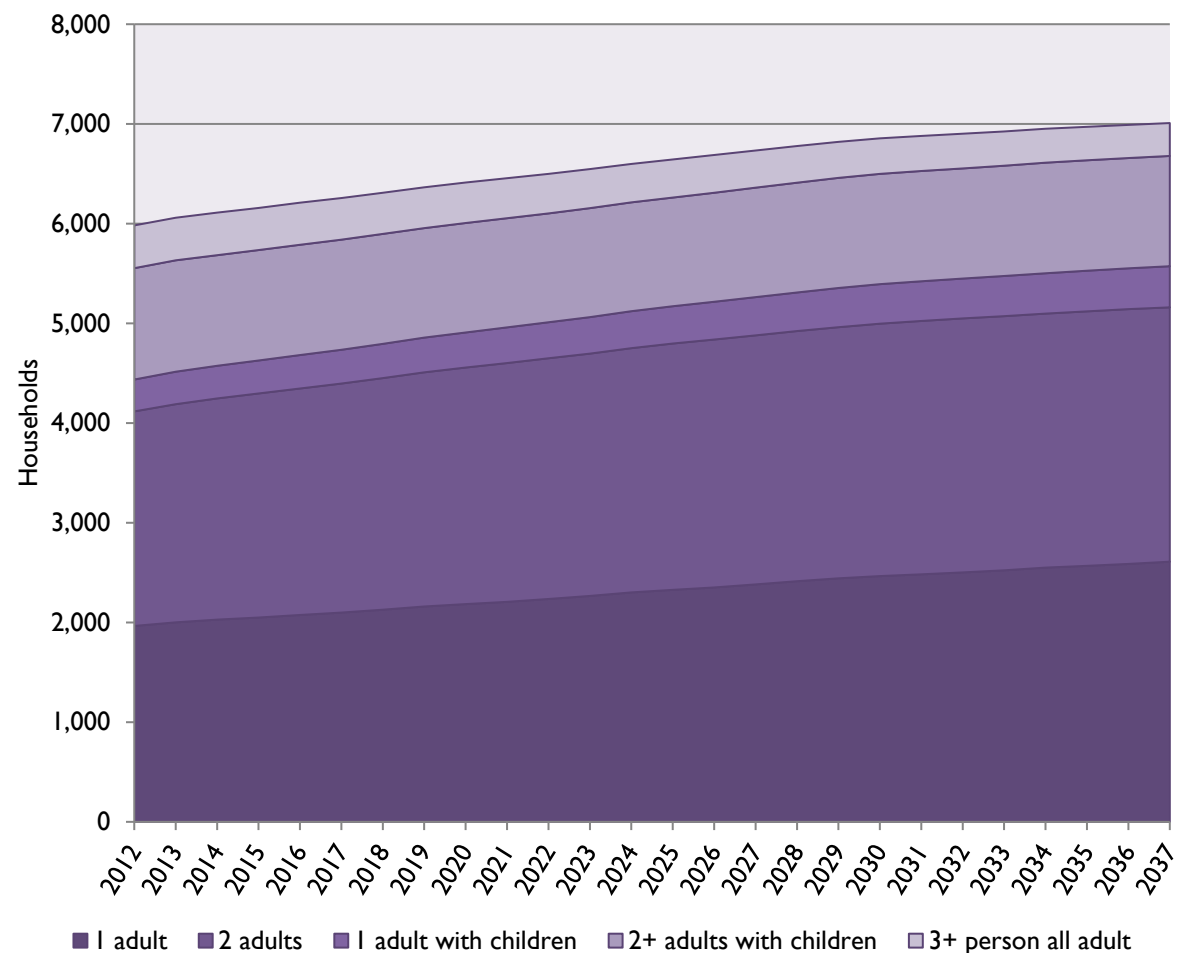


Figure 138 Household projections for Badenoch and Strathspey, by type of household, 2012 to 2037 (NRS, 2016).

(Shelter, 2006). Similarly, growing older in poor quality, unaffordable or inappropriate housing has a negative impact on quality of life the maintenance of independence in retirement (The Housing and Ageing Alliance, 2013). Research carried out in England, showed an average life expectancy gap of seven years between the richest and poorest areas of the country. People living in poorer areas and households with the lowest incomes spend a greater proportion of their lives (an additional 17 years on average) coping with the impact of long-term illness and associated disability (Marmot, 2010).

Fortunately, there is not a high level of housing related deprivation within the National Park, with no data zones falling within the 20% most deprived (see **Figure 139**). There are however areas of the National Park where certain indicators of housing deprivation exceed the national average.

In particular, many areas of the National Park have relatively high proportions of the

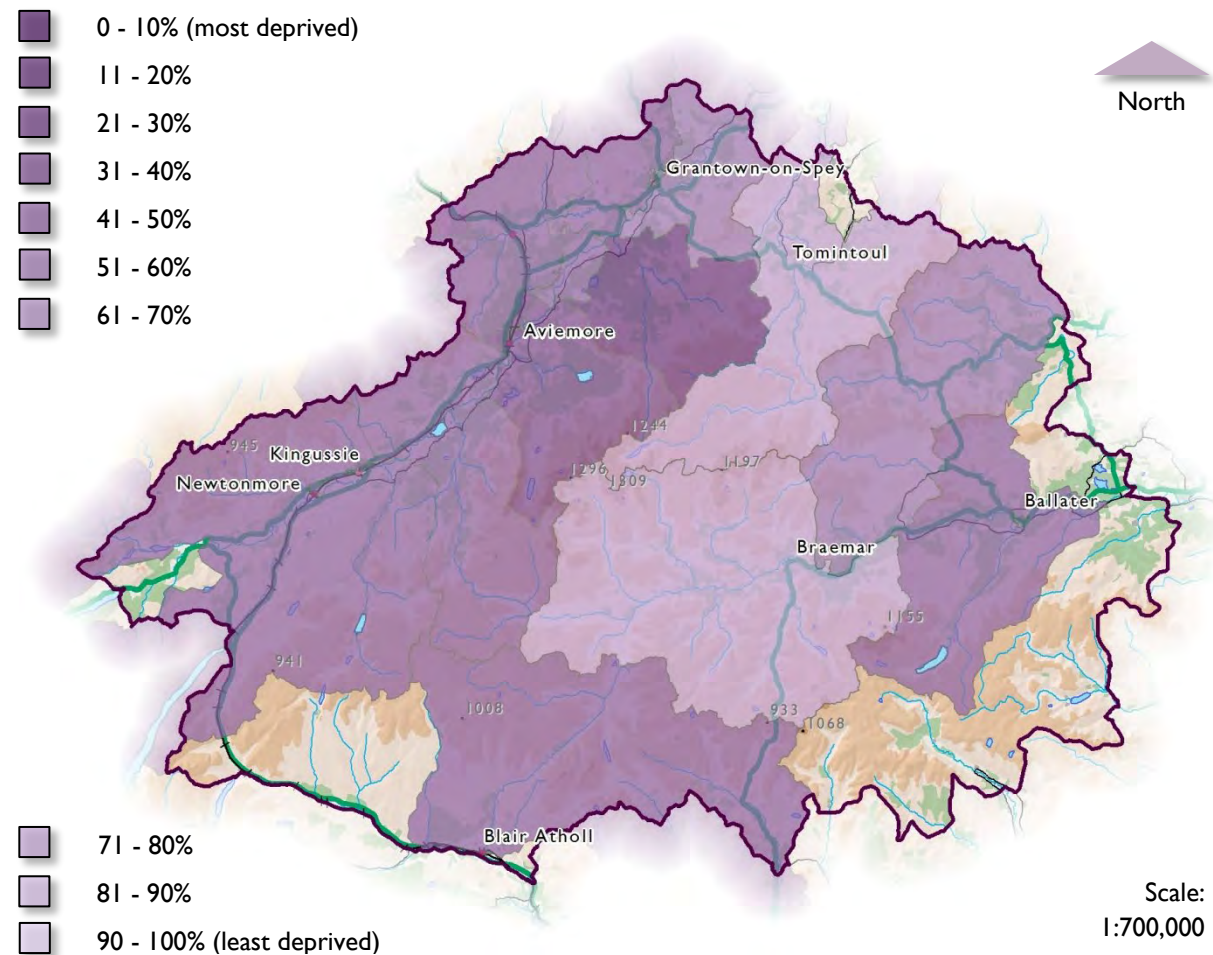


Figure 139 Housing deprivation by decile according to the SIMD (2016).

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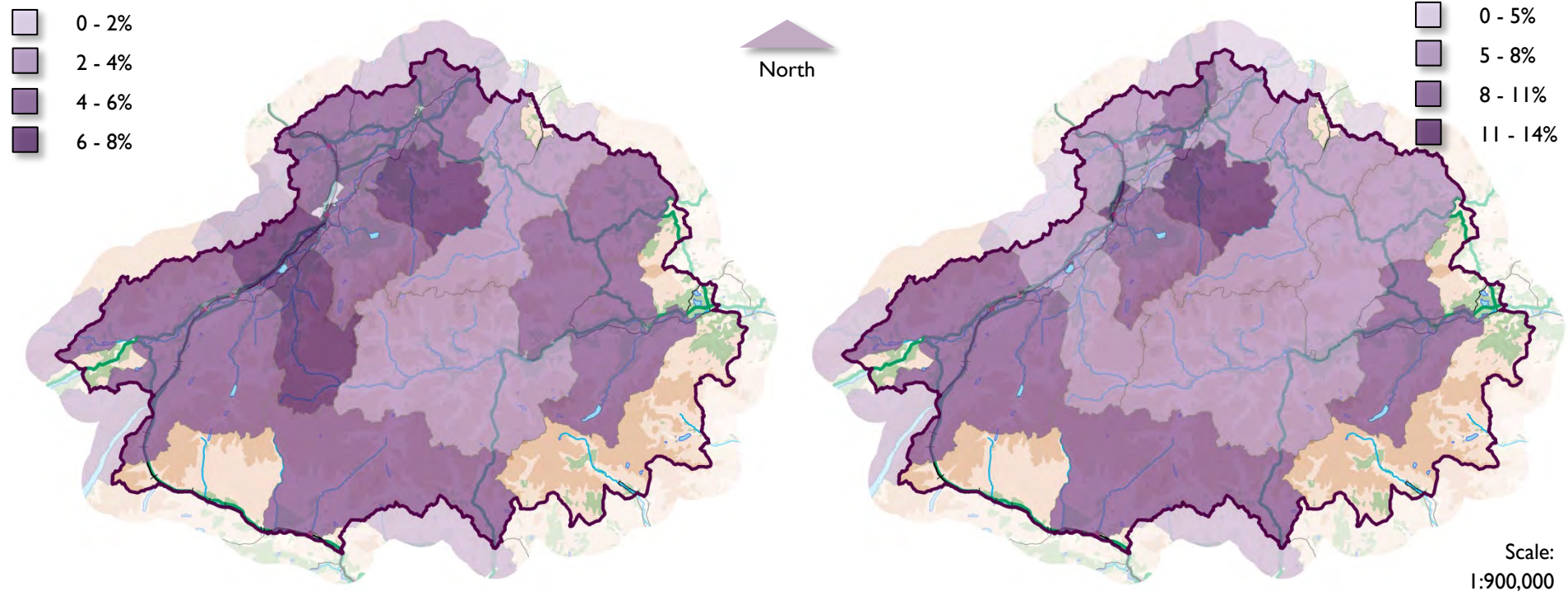


Figure 140 Proportion of household population without central heating (SIMD, 2016).

Figure 141 Proportion of household population living in overcrowded households (SIMD, 2016).

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, some records have been swapped between different geographic areas. Some cell values will be affected, particularly small values at the most detailed geographies.

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household population living in homes with no central heating, equating to around 4.3% across the whole area (Scotland 2.3%) (**Figure 140**). Levels of household overcrowding are relatively low within the National Park (**Figure 141**), with the vast

majority of data zones falling below the Scottish average of around 13.9%.

Overcrowding statistics may be skewed by the fact that compared to the Scottish average, there is higher proportion of large dwellings within the National Park and a

lower proportion of small ones (**Table 35** and **Table 36**). This may therefore mask significant instances of overcrowding suffered by those unable to afford larger properties (see pages 301 to 303).

Table 35 Number of dwellings by size in the Cairngorms National Park in 2017 (Source: www.sns.gov.uk/).

Area of National Park	All Dwellings	One Room	Two Rooms	Three Rooms	Four Rooms	Five Rooms	Six Rooms	Seven Rooms	Eight Rooms	Nine Rooms	Ten or more rooms	Unknown
ABD	1,937	40	220	294	438	410	245	128	74	37	51	0
Highland	7,290	27	710	1,711	1,872	1,200	712	426	177	85	140	230
Moray	418	6	38	49	118	97	49	27	15	6	13	0
PKC	541	2	27	92	166	101	50	41	13	15	31	3
CNPA	10,186	75	995	2,146	2,594	1,808	1,056	622	279	143	235	233
Scotland	2,603,174	28,632	304,447	754,626	684,560	425,583	199,666	92,424	41,440	17,417	14,736	39,643

Table 36 Proportion of dwellings by size in the Cairngorms National Park in 2017 (Source: www.sns.gov.uk/).

Area of National Park	All Dwellings	One Room	Two Rooms	Three Rooms	Four Rooms	Five Rooms	Six Rooms	Seven Rooms	Eight Rooms	Nine Rooms	Ten or more rooms	Unknown
ABD	100%	2.1%	11.4%	15.2%	22.6%	21.2%	12.6%	6.6%	3.8%	1.9%	2.6%	0.0%
Highland	100%	0.4%	9.7%	23.5%	25.7%	16.5%	9.8%	5.8%	2.4%	1.2%	1.9%	3.2%
Moray	100%	1.4%	9.1%	11.7%	28.2%	23.2%	11.7%	6.5%	3.6%	1.4%	3.1%	0.0%
PKC	100%	0.4%	5.0%	17.0%	30.7%	18.7%	9.2%	7.6%	2.4%	2.8%	5.7%	0.6%
CNPA	100%	0.7%	9.8%	21.1%	25.5%	17.7%	10.4%	6.1%	2.7%	1.4%	2.3%	2.3%
Scotland	100%	1.1%	11.7%	29.0%	26.3%	16.3%	7.7%	3.6%	1.6%	0.7%	0.6%	1.5%

A significant barrier in reducing household deprivation is the availability of enough new housing to replace existing poor quality stock while also meeting projected growth in households. The number of new homes completed in the National Park fell following the ‘credit crunch’ in 2008 and has resulted in an average annual completion rate of around 60 new dwellings (**Figure 142**). The planned ending of the Government’s Help to Buy Scheme (Scotland) in 2016, combined with continued constraints on mortgage availability, may further dampened confidence in the housing market and limit the development of new homes.

Being the area of the National Park in which most development takes place, completions in Badenoch and Strathspey heavily influence this trend with development peaking in 2006, and falling to a nadir in 2013 (**Figure 143**).

Affordability is a further barrier. Between 1993 and 2015, the median price of a property in the Cairngorms National Park

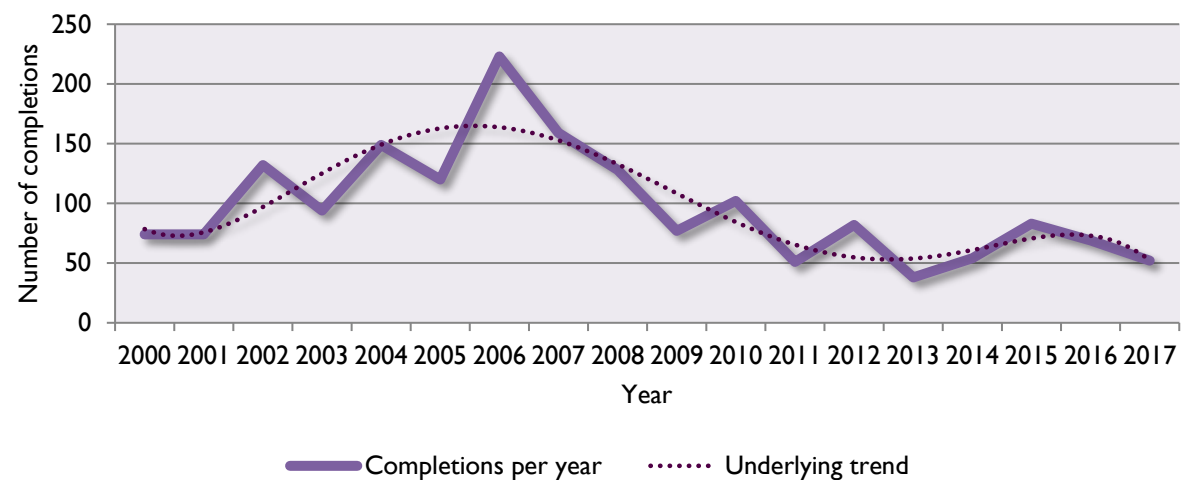


Figure 142 Number of new dwelling per year in the Cairngorms National Park.

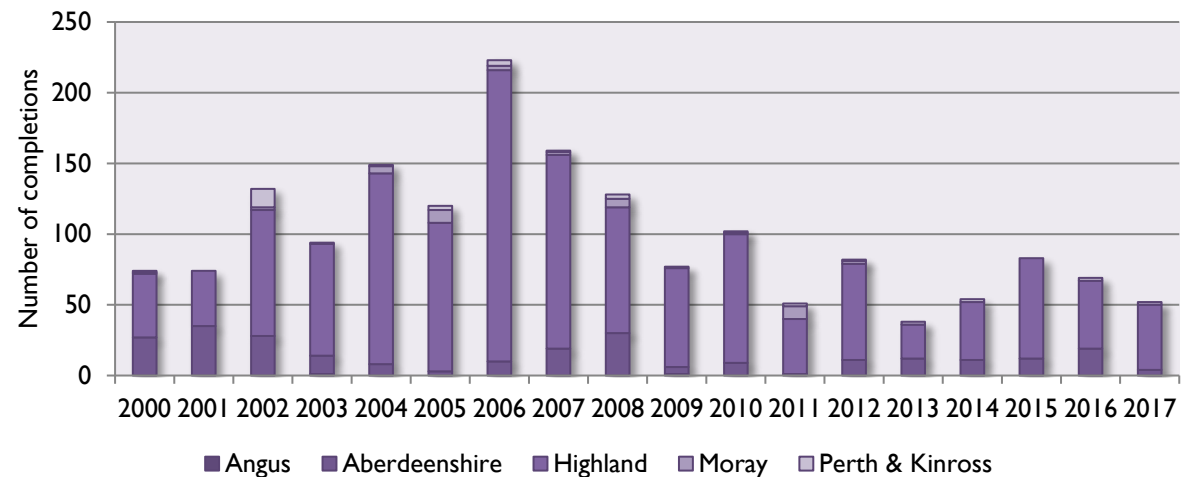


Figure 143 Number of new dwelling per year in by Local Authority

Table 37 Median House Prices in the Cairngorms National Park (Source: <http://www.sns.gov.uk/>).

Year	Lower Quartile House Price	Annual Change in Lower Quartile House Price	Median Sale Price	Annual Change in Median House Price	Number of Sales	Annual Change in Number of Sales	Median Gross Household Income ¹⁴	Annual Change in Estimated Median Gross Household Income	Estimated Median House Price / Income Ratio
1993	£43,750	N/A	£56,000	N/A	237	N/A	No data		
1994	£44,200	1.0%	£58,500	4.5%	222	-6.30%			
1995	£52,400	15.6%	£60,000	2.6%	234	5.40%			
1996	£48,400	-8.3%	£59,000	-1.7%	233	-0.40%			
1997	£47,900	-1.0%	£65,500	11.0%	274	17.60%			
1998	£45,300	-5.7%	£57,000	-13.0%	276	0.70%			
1999	£52,100	13.1%	£68,876	20.8%	301	9.10%			
2000	£55,600	6.3%	£75,000	8.9%	258	-14.30%			
2001	£55,700	0.2%	£75,000	0.0%	344	33.30%			
2002	£61,500	9.4%	£87,000	16.0%	338	-1.70%	£21,465	N/A	4
2003	£70,000	12.1%	£93,250	7.2%	334	-1.20%	£22,108	3.0%	4
2004	£88,700	21.1%	£125,000	34.0%	306	-8.40%	£22,466	1.6%	5
2005	£105,100	15.6%	£146,000	16.8%	328	7.20%	£23,847	6.1%	6
2006	£128,800	18.4%	£175,000	19.9%	392	19.50%	£25,058	5.1%	6

¹⁴ Based on Scottish Government Experimental Statistics on Local Level Household Income Estimates. Invalid source specified..

Year	Lower Quartile House Price	Annual Change in Lower Quartile House Price	Median Sale Price	Annual Change in Median House Price	Number of Sales	Annual Change in Number of Sales	Median Gross Household Income ¹⁴	Annual Change in Estimated Median Gross Household Income	Estimated Median House Price / Income Ratio
2007	£131,300	1.9%	£180,500	3.1%	414	5.60%	£25,598	2.2%	7
2008	£142,200	7.7%	£181,000	0.3%	287	-30.70%	£27,039	5.6%	7
2009	£127,500	-11.5%	£175,000	-3.3%	229	-20.20%	£28,711	6.2%	6
2010	£147,400	13.5%	£190,000	8.6%	289	26.20%	£28,915	0.7%	6
2011	£145,800	-1.1%	£191,000	0.5%	251	-13.10%	£29,069	0.5%	6
2012	£127,300	-14.5%	£176,500	-7.6%	230	-8.40%	£29,774	2.4%	6
2013	£121,800	-4.5%	£165,000	-6.5%	294	-27.80%	£30,206	1.5%	5
2014	£147,100	17.2%	£185,000	12.1%	351	19.40%	£31,058	2.8%	6
2015	£141,400	-4.0%	£197,500	6.8%	341	-2.90%	£31,070	0.0%	6
2016	£134,200	-5.4%	£181,500	-8.1%	298	-12.60%	£32,483	4.5%	5
2017	£150,400	10.8%	£197,375	8.8%	319	7%	£33,412	2.9%	6

saw a net rise of almost 230%, with a peak in 2015 of £192,500 (**Table 37**). The 'credit crunch' does not appear to have had much of an immediate impact on prices, although it seems to have resulted in a lower level of sales since a peak in 2007. The 'credit crunch' does not appear to have had much of an immediate impact on prices, although it seems to have resulted in a lower level of sales between 2007 and 2014. The growth in house prices has also been lower and more variable since 2007 and while 2015 represents an all-time high, it is difficult in the current economic climate to tell whether this marks the beginning of a longer term trend..

Between 2007 and 2015, the median house price to median household income/earnings ratio in the National Park fell from over 8 times income to around 6 (see page 308 for information on income). However, despite this improvement, the lower availability of mortgage finance for first time buyers means that many aspiring households still cannot afford to buy.

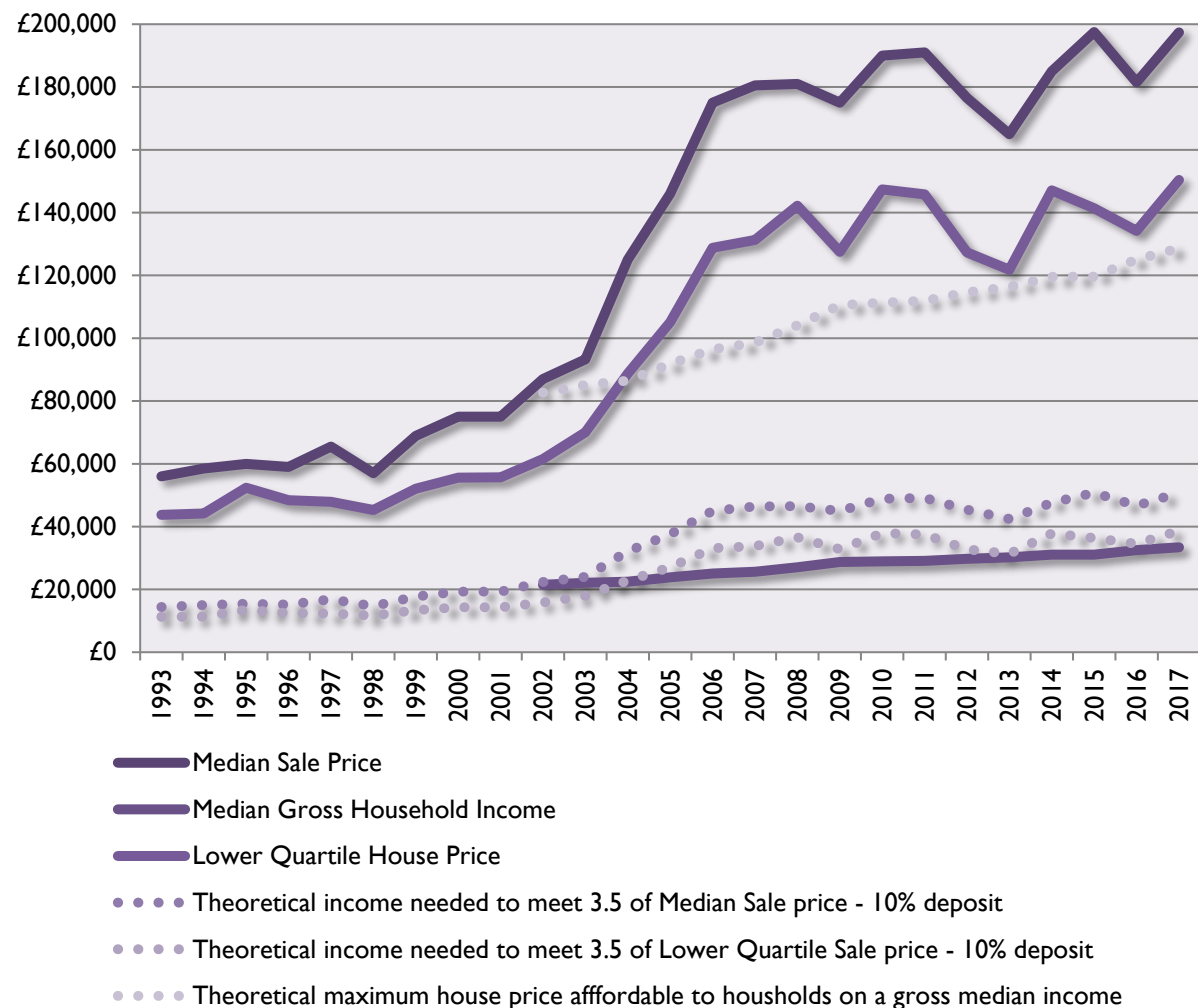


Figure 144 House prices and household incomes within the Cairngorms National Park 1993-2017 (Sources: www.statistics.gov.scot; Scottish Government, 2017 & Nomis: Official Labour Market Statistics).

There is also considerable variation in the median house prices across the National Park, ranging from £100,000 in part of Badenoch and Stathspey, to £355,000 in part of Deeside (**Figure I45** and **Figure I46**). However, it should be noted that statistics for these individual data zones can represent only a small number of sales year on year and therefore annual changes in these areas can be significant.

Figure I45 offers an insight into the evolution of median house prices across the National Park. It indicates that not only have median house prices risen dramatically since 1993, but that the difference between the most and least expensive data zones has also grown considerably. Indeed, the distribution of median prices has broadened across all quartiles, further indicating significant variations between localities.

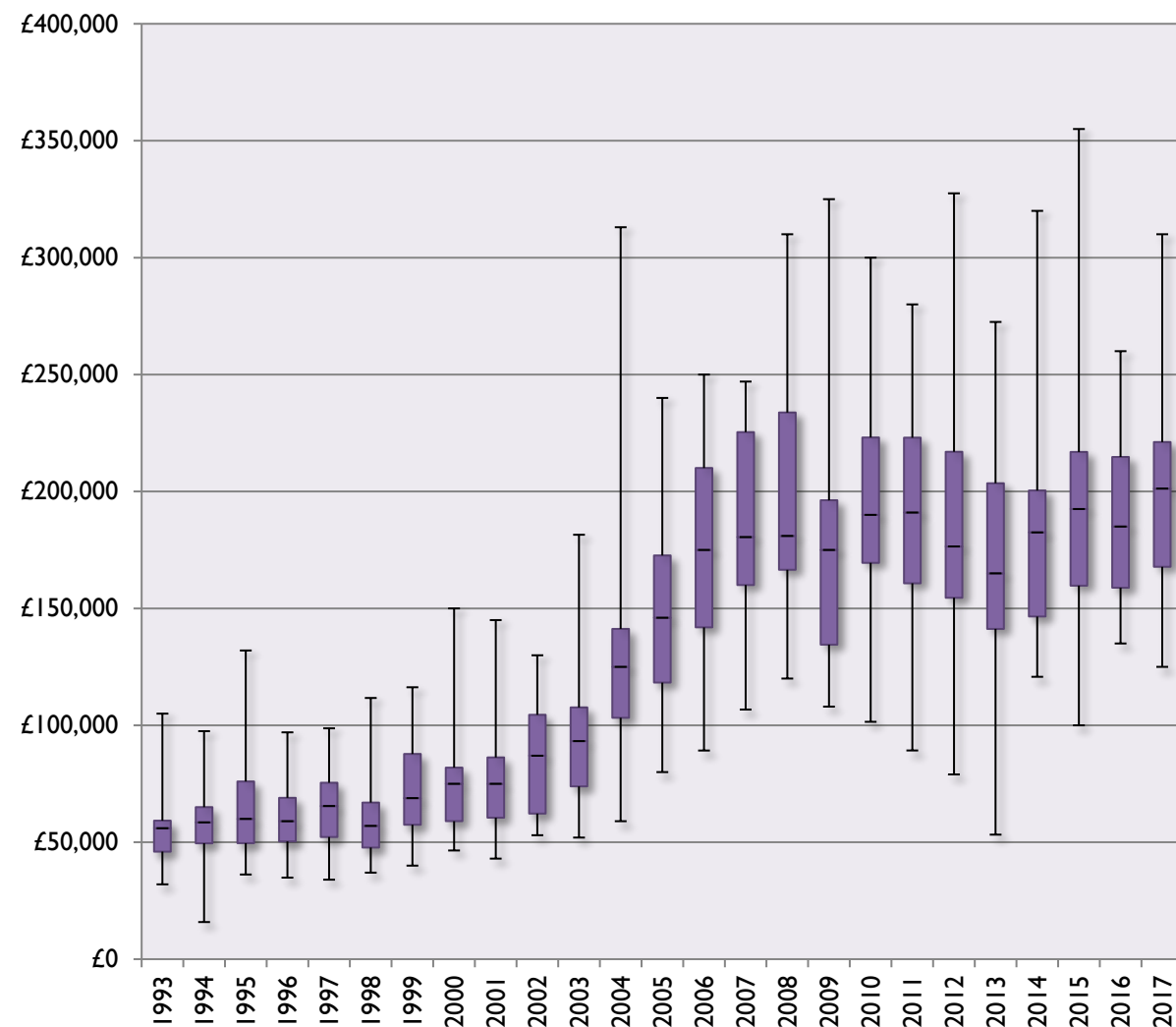


Figure I45 Box plots of Median house prices of data zones within the Cairngorms National Park (Source: <http://www.sns.gov.uk/>).

Between the 17th and 18th September 2015 the CNPA undertook a study of the current asking price for property within the National Park based on a search of Estate Agent and property marketing websites. It was found that there were 169 properties for sale within the National Park on these dates, mostly within Badenoch and Strathspey.

According to this sample the median asking price within the National Park was £225,000, which is around 8 times greater than median income/earnings. While this figure is considerably higher than the median sale price achieved in 2013, it is unlikely to equate to the current median sale price, given that negotiation tends to result in a drop in price at the point for sale. It is probable that median prices have risen since 2013, probably sitting somewhere between the median sale and asking prices quoted in this paper. The high median asking price quoted in this study is likely to be in part due to the current dominance of large and / or detached units within the sample (**Figure 147** and

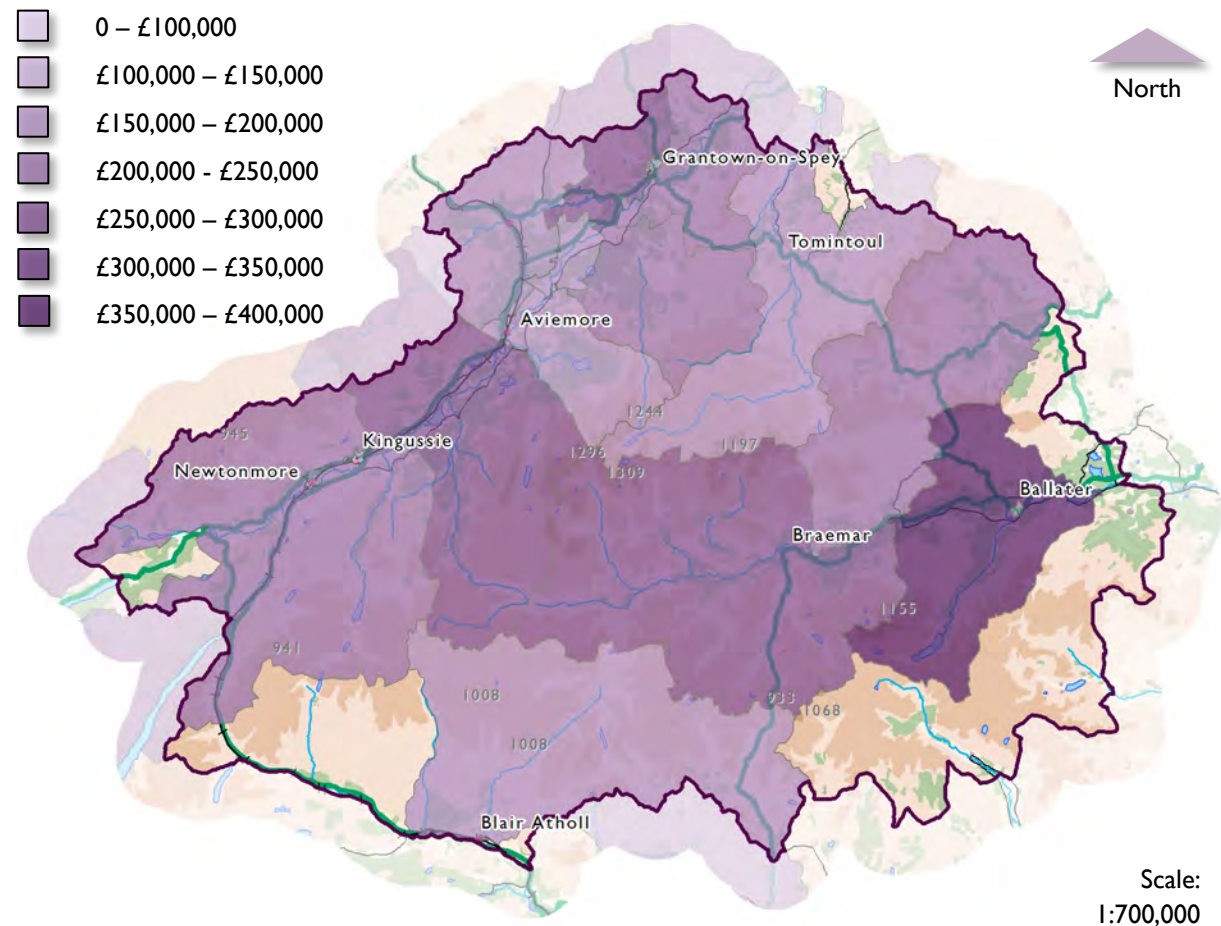


Figure 146 Median House Prices of data zones within the Cairngorms National Park in 2015.

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Figure 148) as the median asking price for detached properties is around twice that of terraced and semi-detached properties and around three times that of flats.

The relatively low numbers of small units in the sample may be due to a number of reasons. Firstly, it is likely that such units are sold quicker than larger units and therefore the number of properties counted in a sample such as this is always likely to be low. Secondly, based on information derived from Council Tax payments, it is evident that the National Park contains a lower proportion of smaller houses than the Scottish average (see **Table 35** and **Table 36**).

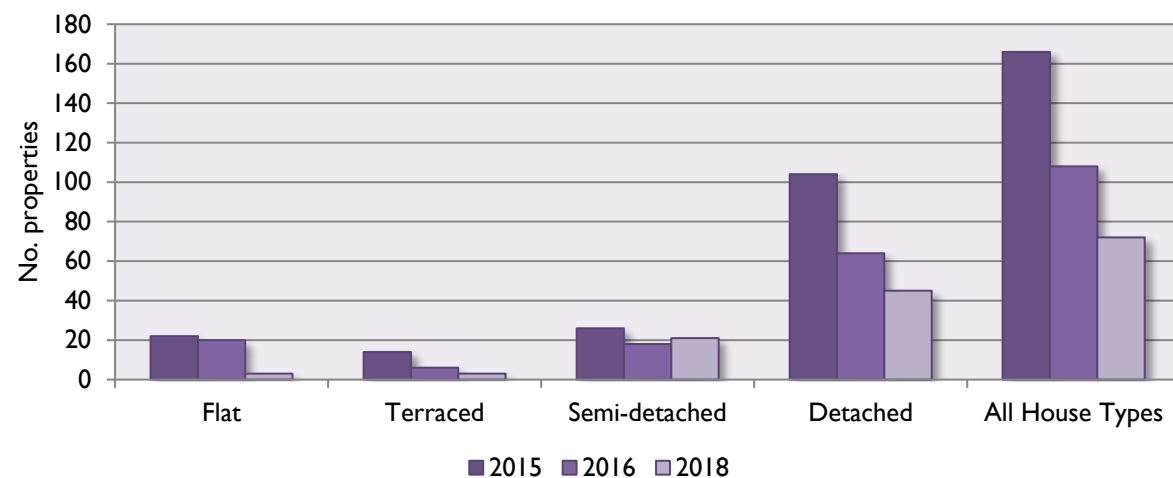


Figure 147 Property types on sale within the Cairngorms National Park, September 2015, December 2016 and October 2018.

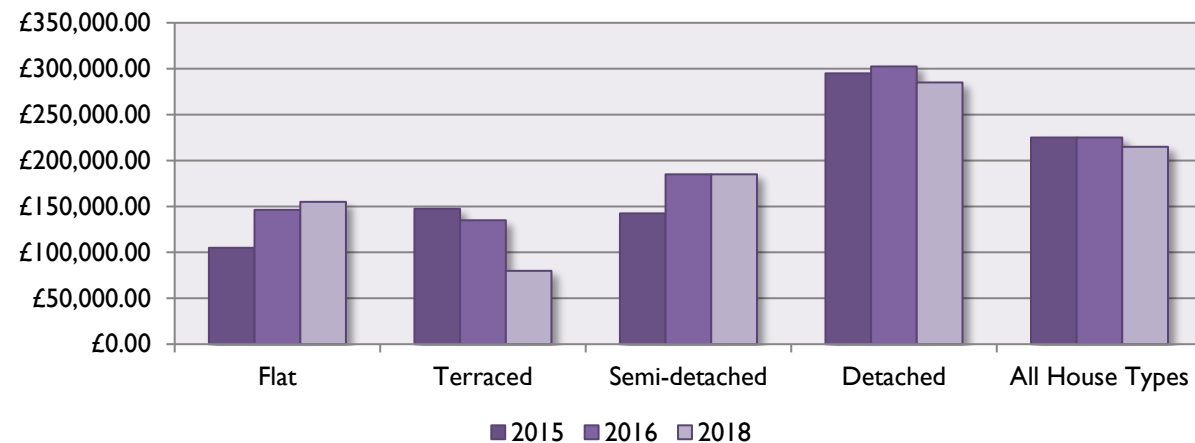


Figure 148 Median asking price by property type the Cairngorms National Park, September 2015, December 2016 and October 2018.

Economic Activity

At the time of writing 2014 estimates of working age population were not available at a data zone level and therefore this report draws upon data from the 2013 mid-year estimates. These indicate that the National Park had a working age population of 10,909 people (51.9% of total population), with 5,666 males and 5,243 females. Those of pensionable age numbered 4,539 (24.6% of total population) with 1,911 males and 2,628 females.

Educational achievement within the National Park is a little higher than the Scottish average. In terms of qualifications, the 2011 Census (Table LC5102SC) suggests that around 76.8% of the 16+ Census population had NVQ1 level and above (Scotland 73.2%), and around 30.8% had NVQ4 and above (Scotland 26.1%).



Figure 149 Occupations of the economically active population (Census table KS601SC).

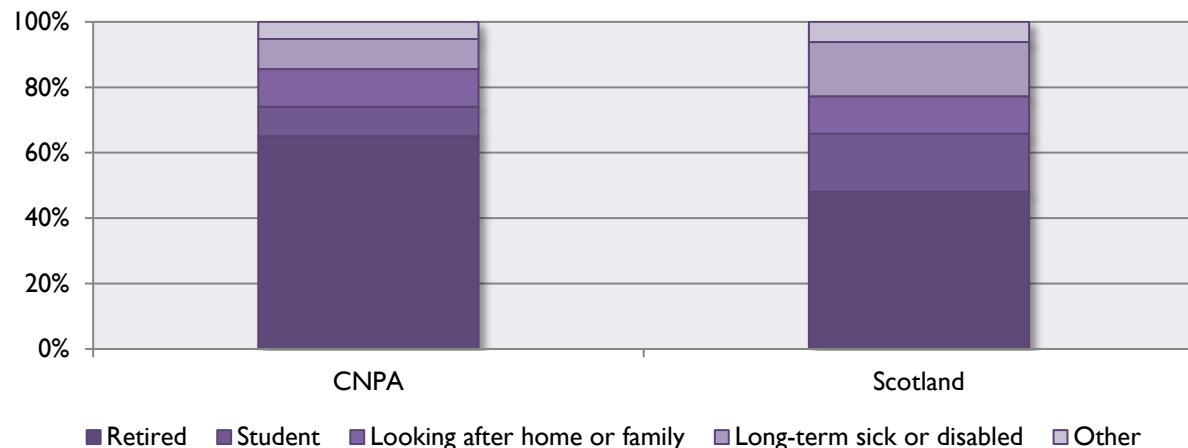


Figure 150 Occupations of the economically active population (Census table KS601SC).

For further information on variables, see www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/variables

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, some records have been swapped between different geographic areas. Some cell values will be affected, particularly small values at the most detailed geographies.

According to the Census (Table LC6107SC) of the economically active in 2011 (around 10,487 individuals, or 66% of the 16+ population), around 95% were classed as being in employment, which is slightly higher than the Scottish level of 91.9% (**Figure 149** and **Figure 151**). Of the inactive, who numbered 5,377 (around 33.9% of the 16+ population), around 75% were inactive due to retirement. This is much higher than the Scottish retirement level of approximately 60% (**Figure 150**). There are two reasons for this. Firstly, as shown by **Figure 123** the National Park has a higher proportion of those over the age of 55 than the national average, and secondly, owing to the absence of a higher education facility within the National Park, there are relatively few full time students residing within its boundary.

The Census profile of full time (72.8%) and part time (27.2%) employee jobs (excludes self-employed, government, trainees and HM Forces) (Table LC6109SC) is generally consistent with Scotland as a whole.

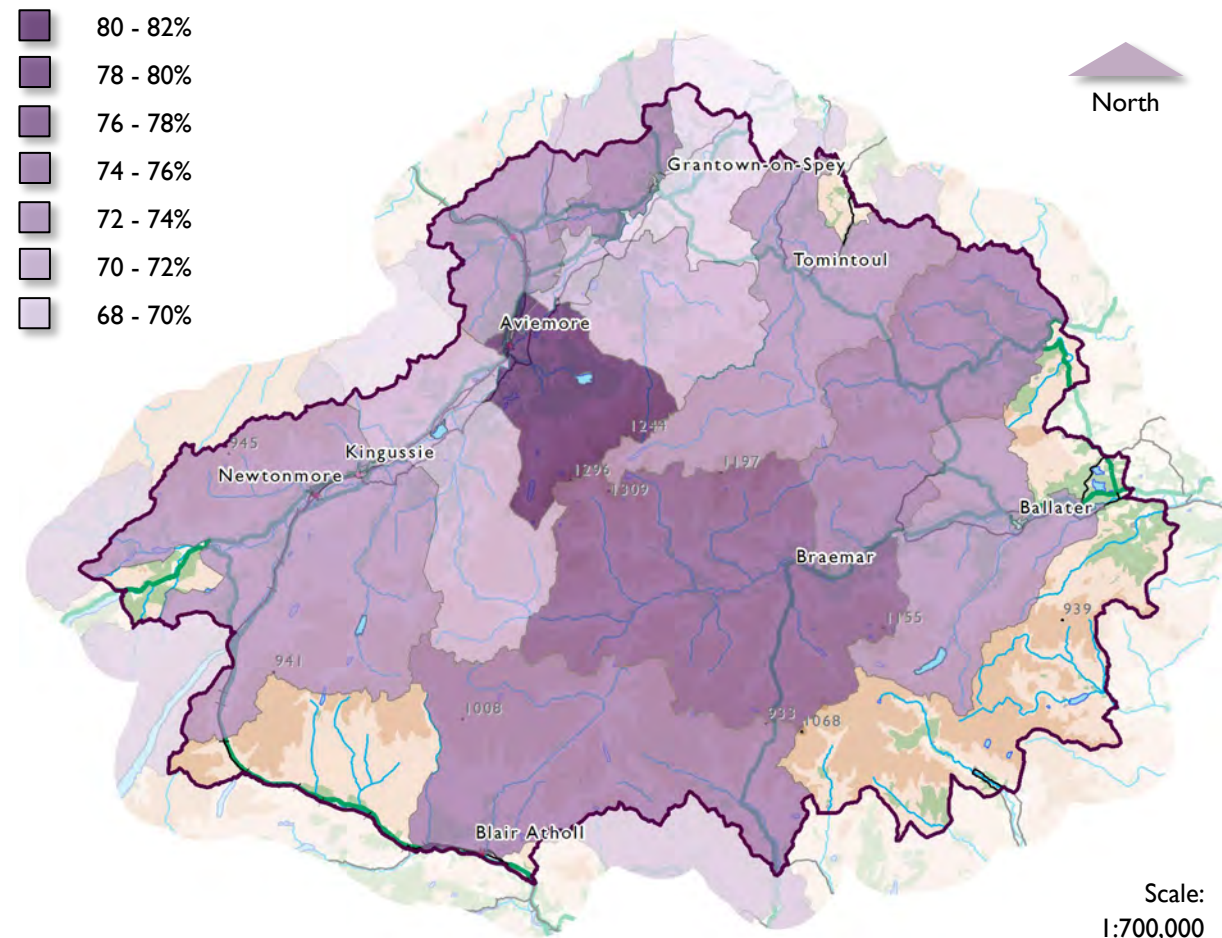


Figure 151 Proportion of the population aged 16-75 that are economically active. (Census table KS601SC).

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The significance of certain employment sectors differs quite significantly however, with the proportion of those employed in agriculture, forestry and fishery, accommodation and food and 'other' forms of work far exceeding the Scottish average (**Figure I52**).

According to SIMD 2012 data, the National Park has relatively low levels of employment related deprivation, which it rates using indicators such as Working Age Unemployment Claimant Count, Working Age Incapacity Benefit recipients and Working Age Severe Disablement Allowance recipients. None of the data zones within the National Park fall into any of the most deprived categories, with 10 out of the 23 falling within the 20% least deprived.

Indeed, unemployment levels within the National Park are relatively low, with the Census suggesting that in March 2011 only around 445 of the population aged 16-74 (3.2% compared to the Scottish 4.8%)

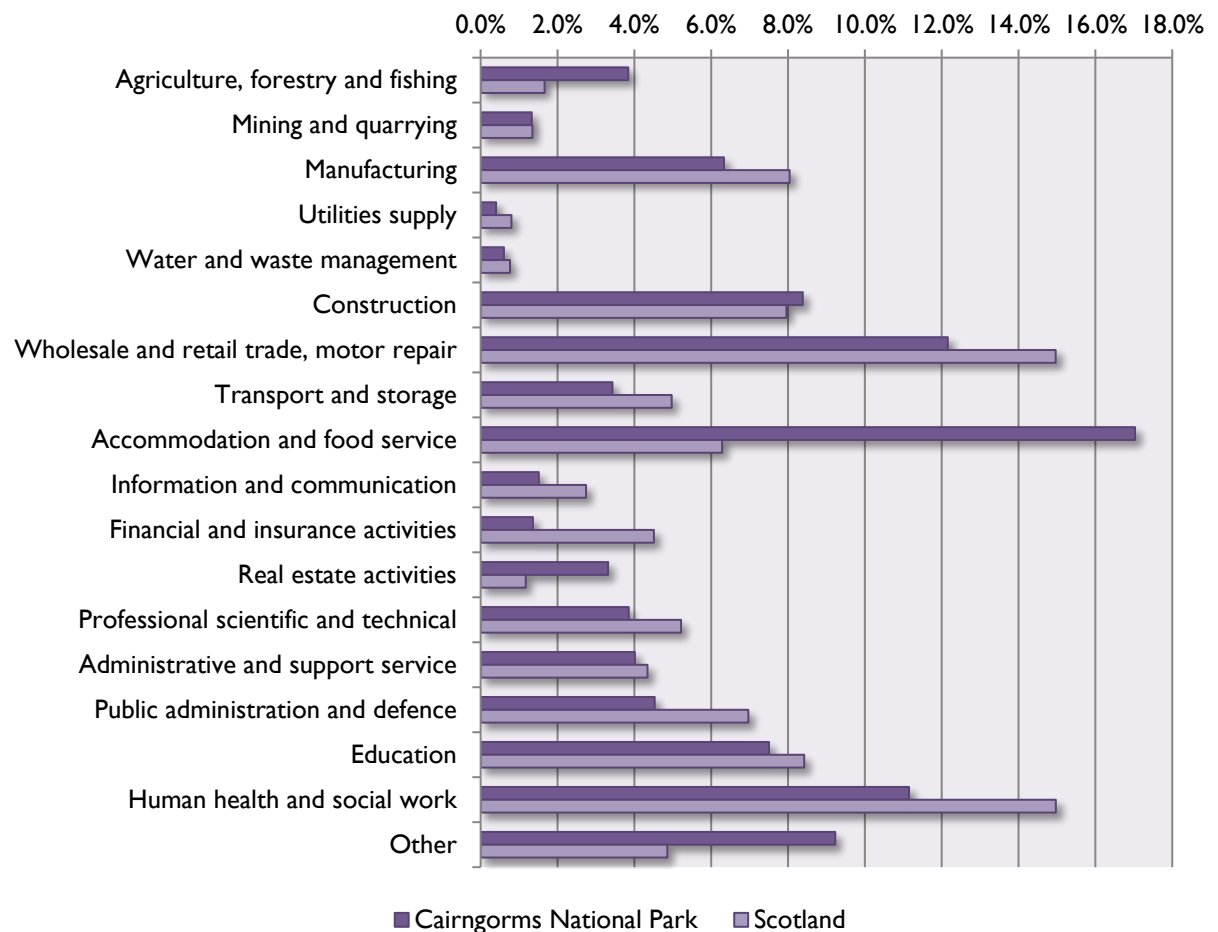


Figure I52 Proportion of all people aged 16 to 74 in employment the week before the census by industry (Census table KS605SC). Crown copyright 2013.

For further information on variables, see www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/variables

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, some records have been swapped between different geographic areas. Some cell values will be affected, particularly small values at the most detailed geographies.

were unemployed, of which around 150 were in long term unemployment, while only around 35 had never worked at all (Table KS60ISC). There is however some geographical variation across the area, with the Moray part of the National Park experiencing the highest unemployment level, at around 6.2% (**Figure 153**).

Data on Out of work benefits issued to those of working age in the area supports this, with those claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) in quarter 4 of 2012 standing at 225 (1.7%), below the Scottish figure of 4%. The nature of employment within the National Park is however extremely seasonal, with JSA claimants peaking in the winter months (**Figure 154**). Unemployment is at its lowest in July, which coincides with Scottish school and public holidays.

In employment terms, claimant data suggests that the recession began in the National Park in March 2008. It continued to get worse at the rate of about two jobs per week until July 2009 when the position

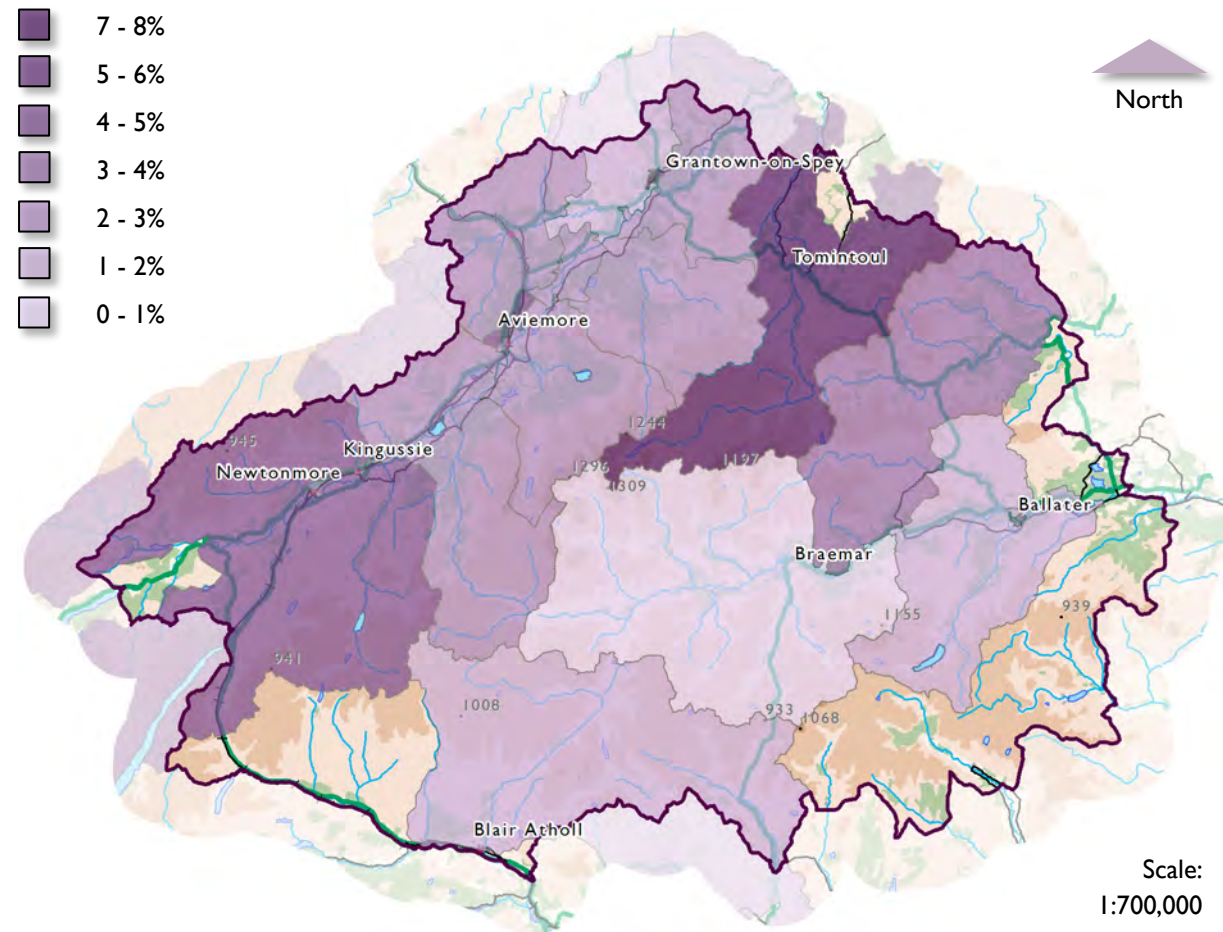


Figure 153 Proportion of the population aged 16-75 that are unemployed. (Census table KS60ISC).

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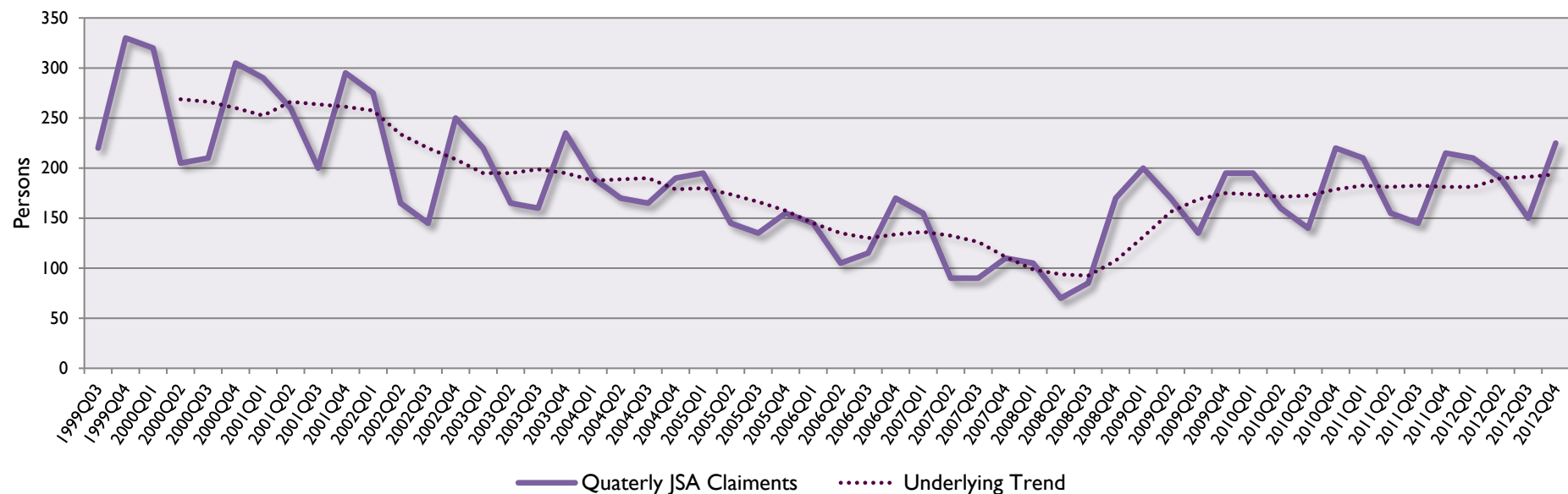


Figure 154 Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants within the Cairngorms National Park (Source: <http://www.sns.gov.uk/default.aspx>).

began to improve, with a stabilisation in the level of those claiming JSA. Most recent data suggests that claimant numbers are beginning to fall, though it is still too soon say whether this represents the beginnings of a durable recovery (CogentSi, 2010; CogentSi, 2013).

Wages and Income

Due to the low level of unemployment within the National Park, levels of income

deprivation are relatively low according to the SIMD 2012. However, this masks the fact that there is strong evidence to suggest that average earnings within the National Park are well below the Scottish and British averages.

There is no official up-to-date data available for earnings specifically in the National Park, however an idea may be gained from the Local Authorities that contribute towards

the National Park's area. Of these, only Aberdeenshire is above to the Scottish median income (**Table 38**). However, the shire figures will be heavily influenced by high earners living near and working in or near the city of Aberdeen, which is by far the best-paying Council area in Scotland. Therefore, Aberdeenshire residents who are actually living within the Park are likely to have smaller incomes more in line with

the figures for other parts of the National Park.

Table 38 Median gross weekly earnings by residence, 2018 (Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis; www.nomisweb.co.uk).

Area	Median Gross Weekly Earnings
Great Britain	£571.1
Scotland	£562.7
Aberdeenshire	£ 594.5
Angus	£498.6
Highland	£557.0
Moray	£527.2
Perth & Kinross	£569.7

The likelihood is that the nature of earnings for National Park residents is closer to the Moray and Angus figures than it is to Highland and Perthshire, because both the industrial and urban structure in the National Park is much closer to the first two Local Authorities. Indeed, there is evidence that it is likely to be below the Moray and Angus figures.

To aid understanding of the incomes of residents within the National Park, CongestSi (2010) calculated earnings by industry in each of its contributing NUTS3¹⁵ areas. With the exception of utilities and distilling, the National Park tends to focus on the lower paying industries, notably the hospitality industries and retailing. Using these estimates of employee compensation industry-by-industry, annual earnings levels per head for National Park residents for 2006 were estimated at significantly lower levels than the contributing NUTS3 areas. One factor behind this is the relatively light representation of the public sector in the National Park's economy. Since they pay according to national scales, public authorities in rural areas tend to be amongst the better payers.

Average annual compensation of (non-agricultural) employees in the National Park in 2006 was estimated at £18,370, which is

74% of the Scottish average of £24,840 (CogentSi, 2010).

Another indicator of the income of National Park's residents may be found in research carried out by Herriot-Watt University on developing local and small area estimates of income distribution, poverty and deprivation (Bramley & Watkins, 2013). This study offers a snapshot of household incomes at a data zone level in 2008 / 2009. It should be noted that the figures presented in this study are not directly comparable to those in **Table 38**, since the Herriot-Watt figures represent household income rather than individual worker pay. The Herriot-Watt figures also include welfare payments (e.g. pensions, tax credits, JSA etc.) within their figures, which are also not present within the **Table 38** figures. It is not possible to use the figures to create an aggregate of the National Park either since it is not appropriate to sum the median figures or

¹⁵ NUTS is the standard statistical geography of the European Union. The National Park consists of part of four of Scotland's 23 NUTS3 areas.

percentages for individual data zones. Therefore analysis must take place at a data zone by data zone level. What the data presents in **Table 39** and **Figure 155** therefore is an idea of the variation in median household incomes across the National Park. An analysis of these figures (**Figure 156**) shows that the National Park's median gross household income (£503) is above that of Scotland (£467) and, with the exception of Aberdeenshire, is comparable with all of its constituent Local Authorities. It also shows that the distribution of incomes is much narrower than these areas, with the maximum income being lower and the minimum income being higher.

The figures also demonstrate a great deal of variation between the proportions of households on low incomes. For example, 20% of households in S01000303 have a gross income of less than £300 per week, while the figure is 38% for households in S01004233 (see **Error! Reference source not found.p. Error! Bookmark not defined.**) for location of data zones). Most are however

around the median of 25%, which is below the Scottish 28%.

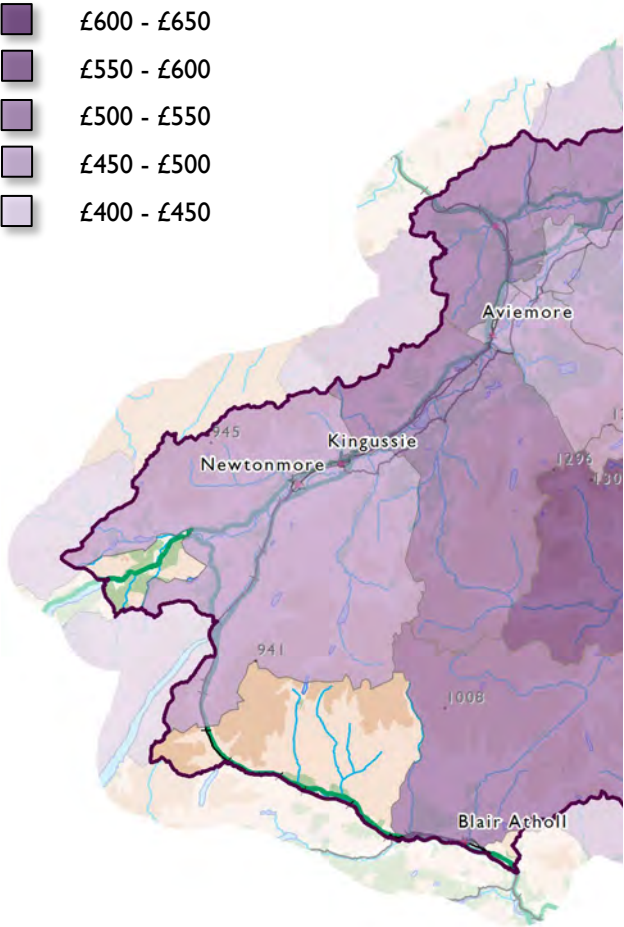


Figure 155 Estimated median weekly gross household income of data zones within the

Cairngorms National Park 2008 /2009 (based on Bramley & Watkins, 2013).

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Table 39 Estimated household income for data zones within the Cairngorms National Park 2008 / 2009 (Bramley & Watkins, 2013).

Local Authority	Data Zone (2001)	Median weekly net ¹⁶ household income	Median weekly median gross ¹⁷ household income	Households with a gross income of less than £300 per week	Households with a gross income of less than £400 per week	Households with a gross income of less than £500 per week	Households with a gross income of less than £600 per week	Households with a gross income of less than £800 per week
Aberdeen-shire	S01000301	£476	£586	22%	31%	42%	49%	65%
	S01000303	£510	£625	20%	28%	37%	44%	60%
	S01000312	£470	£573	23%	33%	45%	49%	64%
	S01000316	£405	£510	29%	42%	53%	58%	71%
	S01000360	£459	£560	26%	34%	45%	51%	67%
Highland	S01003743	£451	£495	27%	35%	43%	52%	69%
	S01003747	£415	£487	24%	37%	49%	57%	76%
	S01003748	£441	£511	23%	35%	45%	52%	70%
	S01003749	£428	£517	23%	36%	44%	53%	71%
	S01003750	£437	£515	26%	36%	45%	53%	70%
	S01003751	£401	£473	25%	37%	49%	57%	77%
	S01003754	£338	£430	29%	44%	54%	62%	78%
	S01003755	£364	£460	26%	40%	49%	58%	74%
	S01003756	£391	£457	30%	41%	52%	59%	76%
	S01003759	£414	£484	27%	38%	49%	56%	74%
	S01003760	£446	£525	22%	33%	42%	51%	70%
	S01003764	£396	£485	26%	39%	49%	59%	77%
	S01003766	£341	£432	31%	45%	55%	61%	75%
	S01003767	£412	£484	25%	37%	49%	56%	73%
Highland	S01003771	£469	£513	24%	32%	39%	49%	66%
	S01003772	£460	£503	25%	34%	41%	50%	66%
Moray	S01004233	£388	£484	38%	46%	58%	61%	78%
PKC	S01005147	£443	£549	25%	33%	45%	53%	69%

¹⁶ Net income covers income from all sources (as in Gross Income) but after the deduction of income taxes and national insurance contributions.¹⁷ Gross income is income from all sources (wages, salaries, pensions, benefits, rent, interest, maintenance) before the deduction of tax and national insurance contributions.

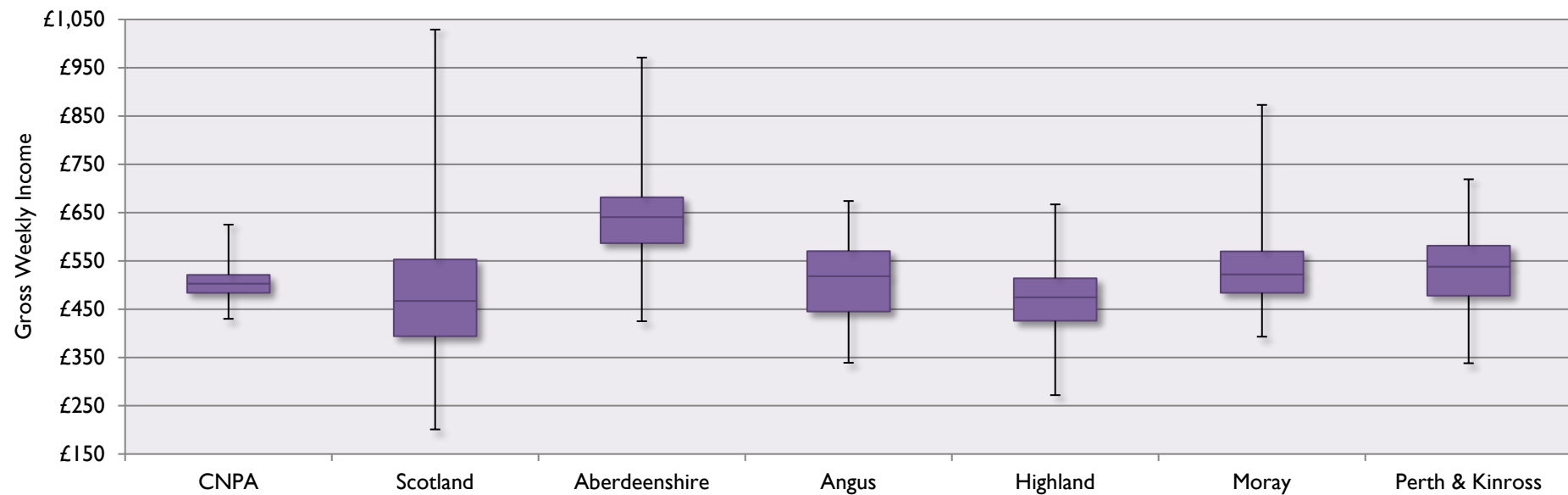


Figure 156 Box plots of median weekly gross household income for data zones in 2008 / 2009 (based on Bramley & Watkins, 2013).

Commuting

The 2011 Census indicated that of the 9,700 people aged 16 -74 in employment around 4,771 (49.2%) of them commuted to work via car, van or motor cycle (Census table LC7101SC) (**Figure 157**). This is lower than the Scottish level of 56%, a reflection of the fact that the National Park has a relatively high level of home working (22.9%). The use of public transport is particularly low within the National Park, a reflection of the difficulties of providing good service in such a rural area.

Most commuting occurs within the National Park, since most of its population is too far from major centres of employment for commuting out to be a very large scale phenomenon. In fact, over half of workers travel less than 10km to their place of work (**Figure 158**).

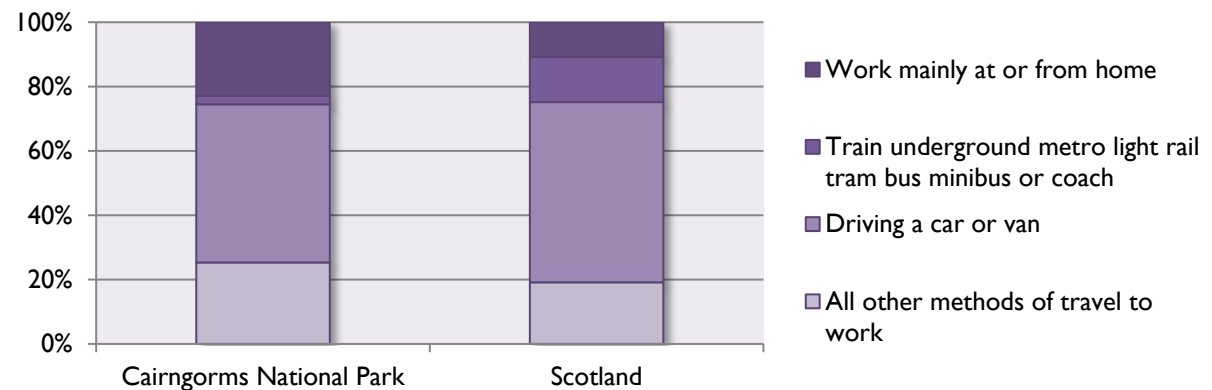


Figure 157 Method of travel to work, 2011 (Census table LC7101SC).

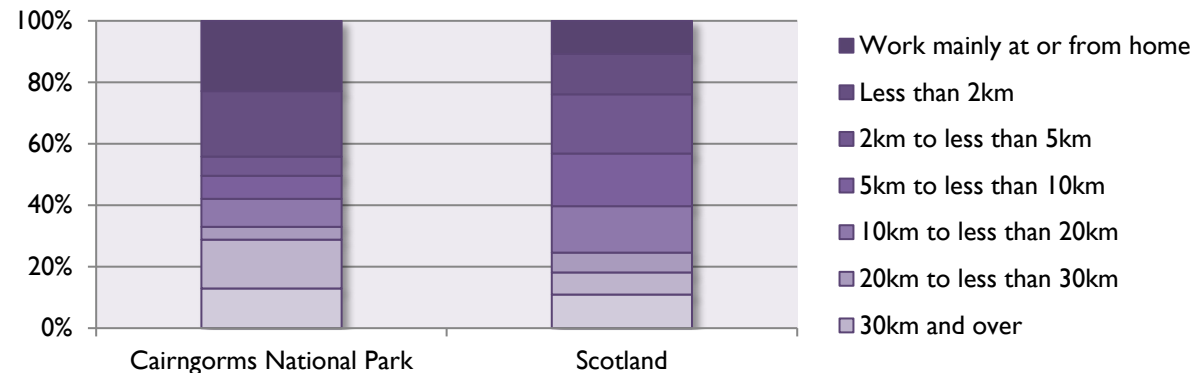


Figure 158 Distance travelled to work, 2011 (Census table LC7102SC)¹⁸¹⁹. Crown copyright 2014.

For further information on variables, see www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/variables

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, some records have been swapped between different geographic areas. Some cell values will be affected, particularly small values at the most detailed geographies.

¹⁸ The distance travelled is a calculation of the straight line between the postcode of place of residence and postcode of workplace.

¹⁹ 'Other' Includes no fixed place of work, working on an offshore installation and working outside the UK

Even with improved connectivity brought about by the A9 Dualling Strategy (see **Topic 5: Material Asset**, p. 173), there is very little chance of the Cairngorms National Park becoming a dormitory suburb to any significant extent (CogentSi, 2010).

Nevertheless, within the National Park the range of employment opportunities which are not tied to visitors, the land, or local services is only limited, and so people with special skills who want to live in the National Park may need to travel outwith the area to work. According to the 2011 Census, some 287 people were commuting out of the Badenoch and Strathspey Travel to Work Area (TTWA) and into the neighbouring Inverness and Dingwall TTWA for work (Highland Council, 2015). Correspondingly, the National Park does not have so many jobs that it attracts commuters in from long distances, but nevertheless there are small communities and isolated residences around the National Park, but outwith its boundaries; for example the Badenoch and Strathspey TTWA had around 6 workers commuting

in from the neighbouring Lochaber TTWA (Highland Council, 2015). For these surrounding residents the National Park offers the best job prospects available (CogentSi, 2010).

Human Health

Life Expectancy

Human Health covers a wide range of issues, many of which have strong relationships with other topic areas. Life expectancy is a good indicator of the overall health of a population. While there is no official data available for life expectancy specifically within the National Park, quantitative reasoning, based on statistics available for Local Authorities, Health Board Areas, SIMD 2012 deciles and Urban / Rural Categories, may be used to gain a reasonable estimate. This data is based on that presented in NRS (Life Expectancy for Areas within Scotland 2011-2013, 2014), while work is currently underway to provide updated estimates based on SIMD 2016 data (National Records Scotland, 2016).

Taking the Local Authorities and Health Board areas that cover the National Park's area (**Table 40**) as a starting point, it can be seen that all have life expectancies that are above the Scottish average. Estimates range from 77.6 to 79.3 for males and 81.4 to 82.8 for females and it is not unreasonable to assume that the National Park's overall life expectancy falls somewhere within this range.

Table 40 Life expectancy at birth in Scotland, 2011-2013, by Local Authority and NHS Board area (National Records of Scotland, 2014).

Area	Male	Female
Scotland	76.9	81.0
Local Authority		
Aberdeenshire	79.2	82.2
Angus	78.5	81.6
Highland	77.7	82.2
Moray	77.9	81.7
Perth & Kinross	79.3	82.8
Health Board		
Grampian	78.3	81.8
Highland	77.8	82.0
Tayside	77.6	81.4

Estimates may also be derived from the SIMD 2012; according to NRS (2014), male and female life expectancy increases and the gap between male and female life expectancy decreases as the level of deprivation decreases. Consequently, NRS have estimated life expectancy according to SIMD decile. Based on the position of the National Park's data zones within the SIMD therefore, an estimate of its life expectancy may be derived. Furthermore, because data zones represent discreet geographies, potential variations in life expectancy across the National Park may be mapped (**Figure 159**). It should be noted that the SIMD measures deprivation and not affluence, therefore the data displayed by **Figure 159** should not be translated as 'life expectancy of the rich versus that of the poor'. It should also be noted that NRS estimates are generalised and the criteria that result in an overall SIMD rank may vary greatly between data zones. The life expectancies presented therefore should not be viewed as geography specific absolutes, but as rough approximations based on national data.

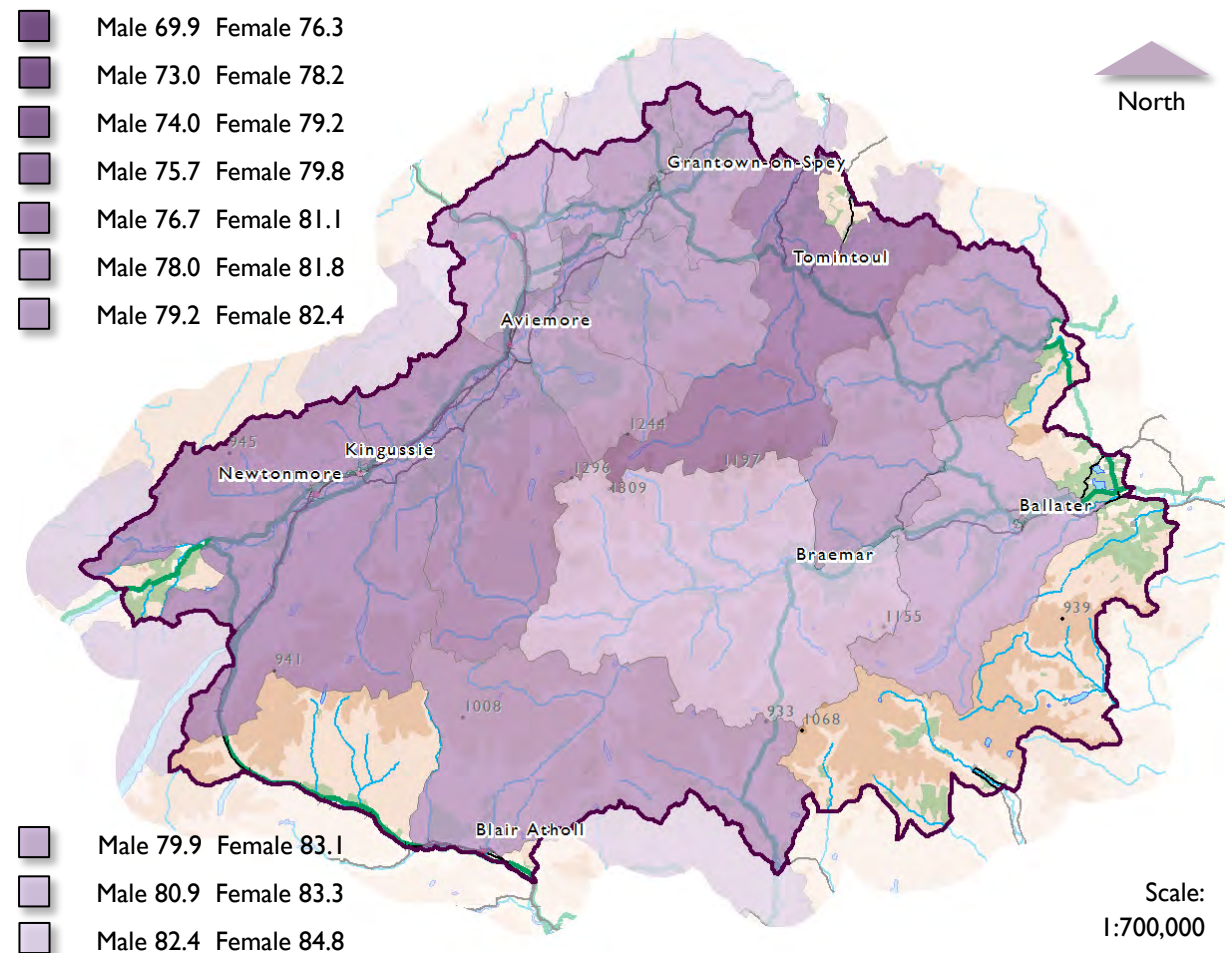


Figure 159 Life expectancy within the Cairngorms National Park by SIMD Decile. Based on NRS (2014).

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Estimating life expectancy via this means offers a range of 76.7 to 80.9 for males and 81.1 to 83.3 for females living within the National Park. This is a broader range than the estimate based on the Local Authorities and Health Boards, but is close enough to support the theory that the life expectancy falls within this initial estimate. If the deprivation based estimates are weighted according to the population of the National Park's datazones, then the estimated life expectancy of the National Park is 79 for males and 82.3 females. This estimate is not unreasonable as it falls within 1% of figures for the Scottish Government's Urban Rural Classification areas, which estimates life expectancy for males to be 79.2 and females to be 82.6 in remote rural areas²⁰ (National Records of Scotland, 2014), which the whole of the Cairngorms National Park is identified as. Irrespective of the exact figures, it is possible to say with some confidence that the residents of the National Park have a greater life expectancy

than the Scottish average, living around 6 to 9 years longer than people in the most deprived parts of Scotland.

Health

Evidence suggests that the population in the National Park is healthier than the Scottish average. According to the 2011 Census, the proportion of people with long term health problems whereby their day-to-day activities are limited a lot was only 6.8% (Scotland 9.6%) while the proportion of people claiming very good to fair health was higher (96.6% compared to Scotland's 94.4%) and the proportion claiming bad to very bad health lower (3.4% compared to Scotland's 6.1%) (**Table 41**). This is supported by evidence from the proportion of Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disability Allowance claimants within the National Park, which in 2012 ranged between 1.1 and 1.8% of the 16+ population, compared to Scotland's 2.7 to 4.1%.

Table 41 Census health indices, 2011.

Indicator	CNP	Scot.
Long-term health problem or disability (Table LC3101SC)		
Day-to-day activities limited a lot	6.8%	9.6%
Day-to-day activities limited a little	10.2%	10.1%
Day-to-day activities not limited	83.0%	80.4%
General health (Table LC3102SC)		
Very good health	55.6%	52.5%
Good health	30.7%	29.7%
Fair health	10.3%	12.2%
Bad health	2.7%	4.3%
Very bad health	0.7%	1.3%
Provision of unpaid care (Table LC3301SC)		
Provides no unpaid care	90.9%	90.6%
Provides 1 to 19 hours unpaid care a week	5.7%	5.2%
Provides 20 to 34 hours unpaid care a week	0.8%	0.9%
Provides 35 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	0.6%	0.8%
Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week	2.0%	2.5%

²⁰ Defined as "areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and with a drive time of over 30 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more."

The Health Domain of the SIMD also provides an indication of the relative healthiness of the National Park, with 5 of its 23 data zones falling within the 10% least deprived. The SIMD does however demonstrate an element of geographical variation, with 6 data zones, mostly in Badenoch and Strathspey falling within the 41 to 50% most deprived range. This is not

necessarily an indication of poor health within these areas, but rather an indication that health related deprivation is closer to the Scottish median in these locations.

Index of Multiple Deprivation

SIMD domains (see **Figure 160** for summary) have been drawn upon throughout this report and since the level

of deprivation experienced by an area can have significant influence on the health and wellbeing of its population, it is also worth considering the SIMD's overall ranking of data zones within the National Park as well as briefly summarising the factors that have led to this situation.

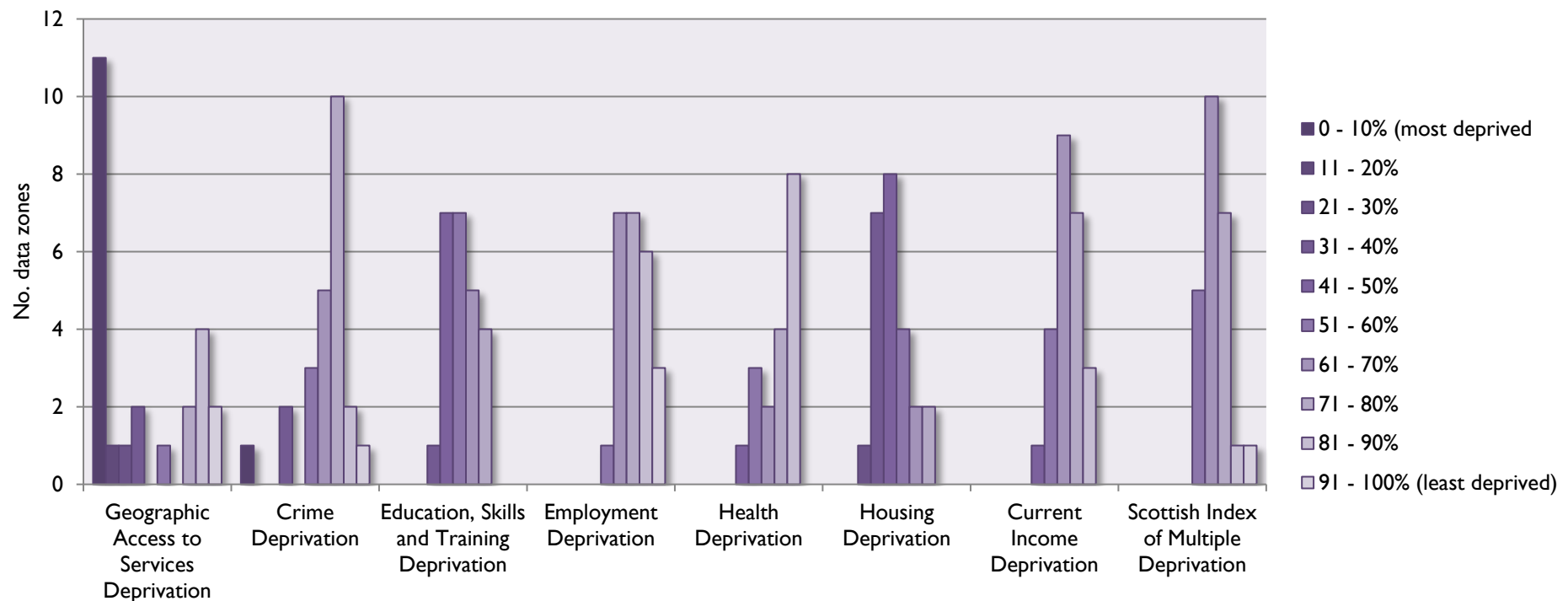


Figure 160 Distribution of SIMD 2016 deciles by domain according to data zones within the Cairngorms National Park.

According to the SIMD 2012, overall deprivation levels within the National Park are relatively low (**Figure 161**). Two data zones (S01006789 and S01006793) fall within the 20% least deprived, while no data zones are ranked within the most deprived 50% (see **Error! Reference source not found.** (p. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**) for location of data zones).

Most domains possess a low level of deprivation, and it is only the domains relating to drive times, public transport and access to services that show any signs of significant deprivation. This is consistent with the rest of remote rural Scotland, where the sparse nature of settlement makes long distances between services inevitable.

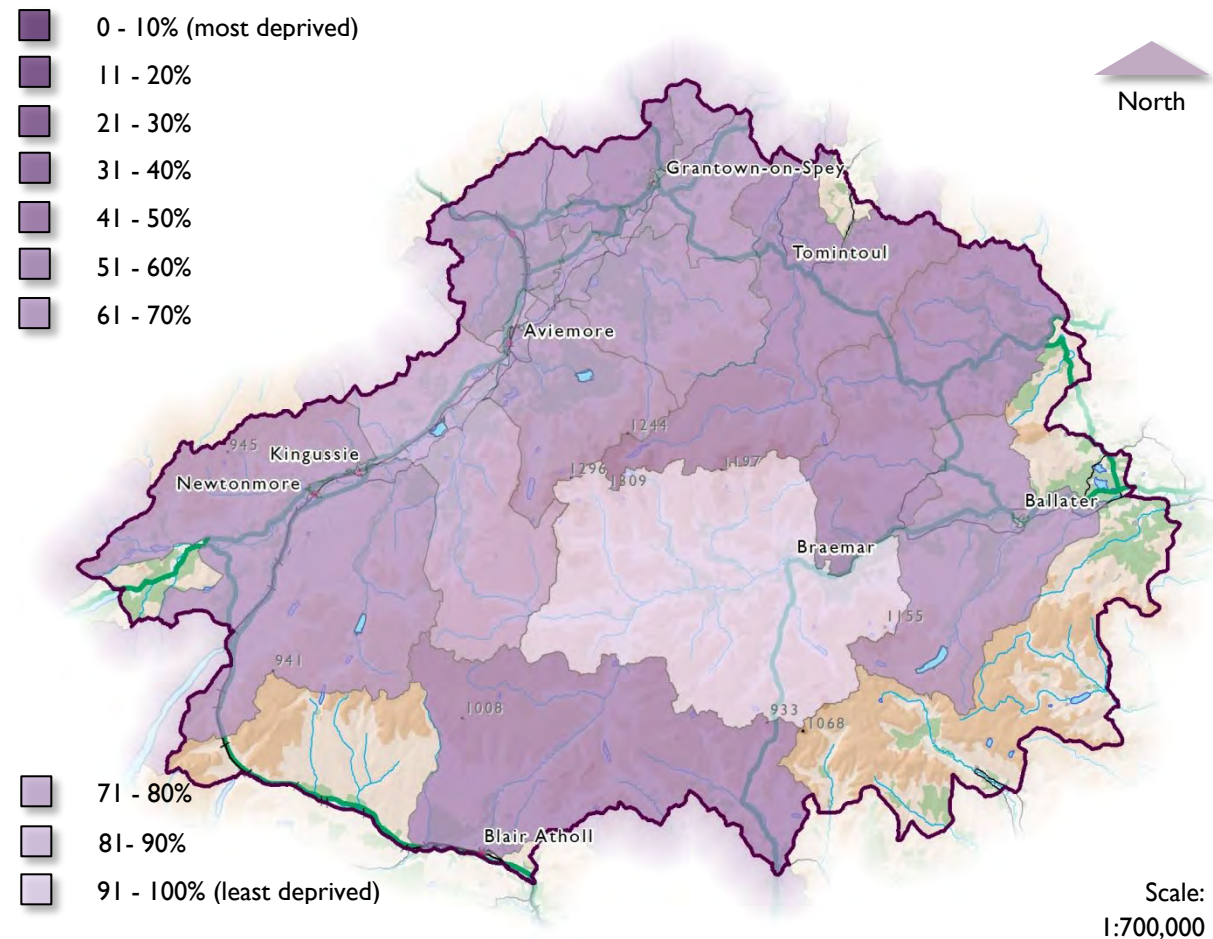


Figure 161 Overall SIMD 2016 deciles according to data zones within the Cairngorms National Park (SIMD, 2016).

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The 2016 SIMD is the fifth version of the index. However, because SIMD is a relative measure (it ranks Scotland's data zones relative to each other), it is not straightforward to interpret any change in a data zone's rank from one version of the index to another. Additionally, analysis of change over time is complicated because there have been changes to the methodology and changes to some of the indicators used. Disclosure control methods can also complicate analysis of change over time for some SIMD indicators because when cell values are suppressed, this may lead to data zones having empty cells for one or more of the versions of the SIMD.

Bearing in mind the cautions expressed above, there are ways of undertaking a limited amount of analysis of change over time. **Figure 162** and **Figure 163** offer two different means of measuring relative change, the former showing changes in overall rank and distribution of data zones and the latter showing the number of people falling within an overall SIMD decile.

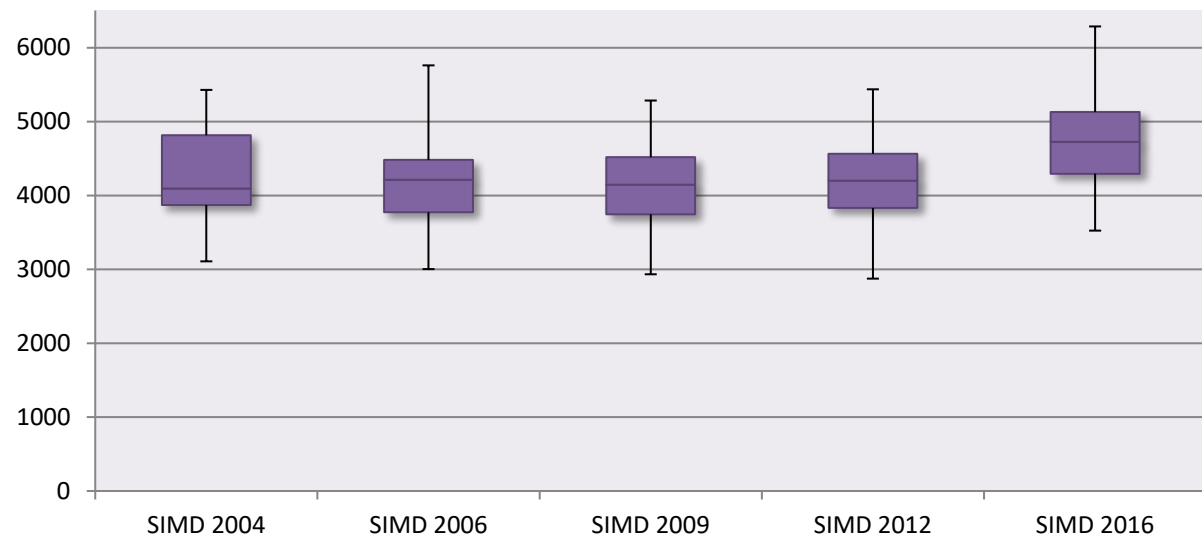


Figure 162 Boxplots showing the distribution of data zones in the Cairngorms National Park by their overall SIMD rank.

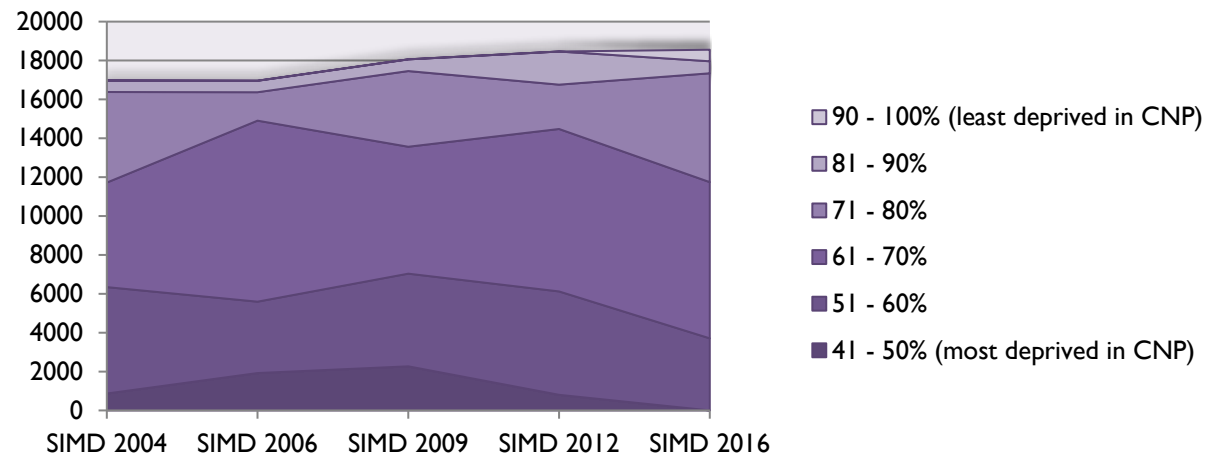


Figure 163 Population distribution by the overall SIMD decile for data zones in the Cairngorms National Park.

Outdoor Recreation

Standardised measures of deprivation aside, there are many factors that can have an influence on a population's health and it is probable that the high quality environment described in this report is a contributory factors. Another factor is likely to be the ability of the population to easily access this environment for leisure and recreational purposes.

Significantly, the Cairngorms National Park is a world renowned area where both residents and visitors can enjoy an unparalleled range of outdoor recreation opportunities. People are able to explore the area on foot, in a wheelchair, on horseback, on a bicycle or even in a boat or canoe, as long as they do so in a responsible manner, with respect for other people and for the environment, and in accordance with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

One important means of access is via the National Park's public footpath network, of which the Core Paths network plays a

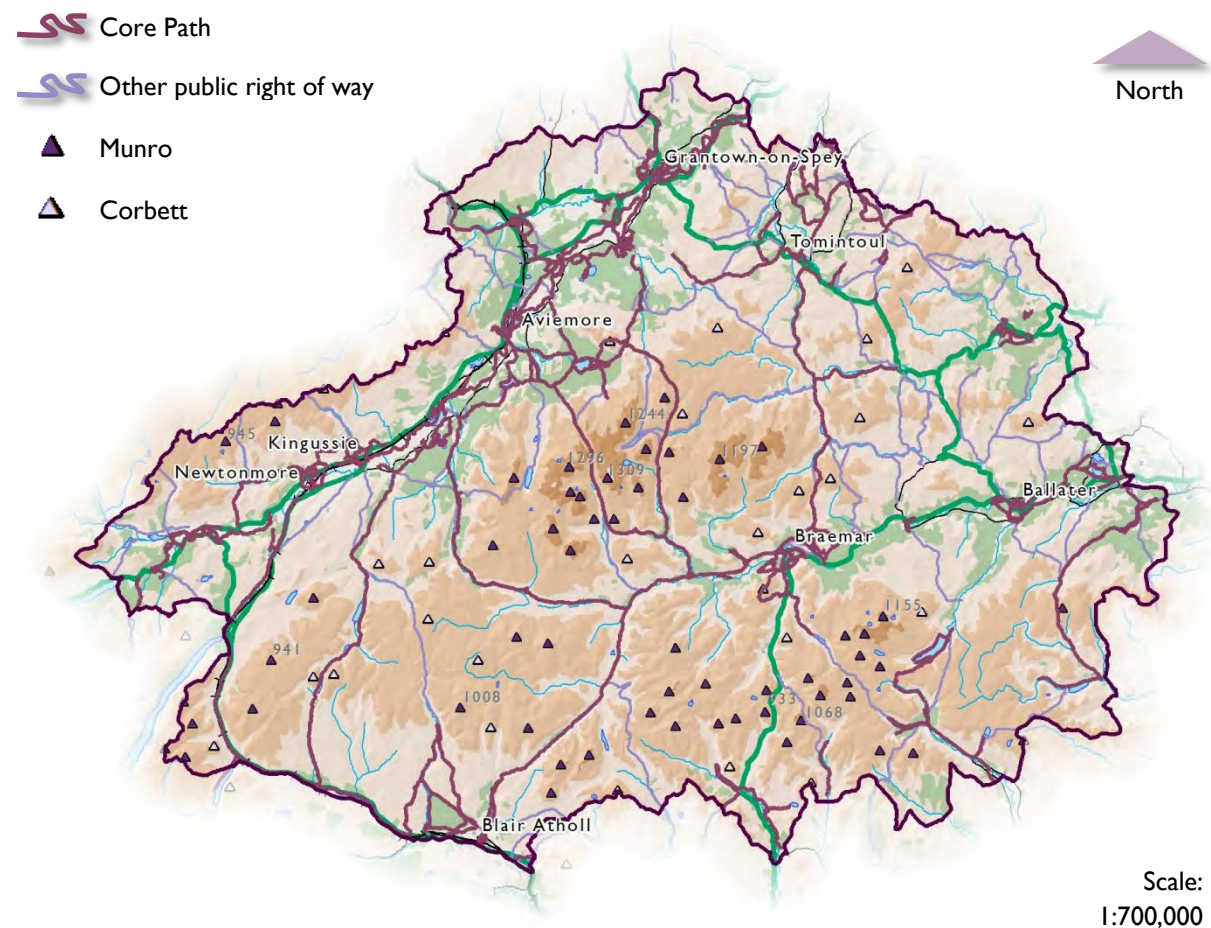


Figure 164 Public footpath network and 'listed' mountains of the Cairngorms National Park.

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significant role (see **Figure 164**). The CNPA has a duty under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 to prepare a Core Paths Plan. Section 17 (1) Act states that the core paths network should be: ‘... *sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout the area*’.

The CNPA has recently published its Core Paths Plan (2015), which was developed in Partnership with the Local Outdoor Access Forum and Inclusive Cairngorms. The aim of the Plan is to help people enjoy and understand the special qualities of the National Park through the identification of outdoor access opportunities. The path network should satisfy the needs of visitors and local people to get around, and link to the wider path network and beyond.

The network is made up of a mixture of existing and new paths, which together

provide a cohesive system. The National Park now has a network that totals 1,073km of core path, 88km of which is on water (River Spey). Furthermore, over 300km of the network has been signed and promoted with a further 100 or so km to be developed and improved.

Visitors

There has been an overall increase in the number of visitors to the Cairngorms National Park since 2009 with 1.64 million visitors in 2014. Between 2012 and 2014, visitor numbers have increased by 8.6% and visitor days by 9.6% (STEAM, 2015).

Whilst the overall numbers have increased, there is still a strong seasonal trend in tourism, with the highest numbers of visitors in the summer months. A continuing challenge for the National Park is creating a more year round tourism

economy, and the 2014 data shows some slight improvement in that area with a greater increase in visitors at off-peak times.

The Cairngorms Visitor Survey 2014/15 gathered a range of information about how visitors interact with the National Park. The survey has been repeated every five years since 2003/04 using the same methodology of 2,500 face to face interviews over a 12 month period in a range of locations across the National Park.

The survey found that the area’s status as a National Park was of high importance for those deciding to visit the area, particularly for overseas visitors. This also varies considerably between the National Park areas where status is of greater importance to those visiting the Moray area.

Key Messages

The Cairngorms National Park has seen significant population growth over its lifetime, although this is now projected to slow down significantly over the next 25 years. The population change will result in a particular set of needs to be addressed by the Plan, including the need to provide accommodation for at least 910 households over this period.

Unemployment is low although the median wage remains below that of Scotland. Gross household incomes, are however slightly higher. The National Park retains a high proportion of its workforce with the most commuting via private motor vehicle.

Overall, deprivation levels are low and the life expectancy of the population is estimated to be above Scotland's as a whole. Instances of life limiting conditions are low and claimants of related benefits few.

The National Park has an extensive and well maintained public footpath network and many man-made and natural features that provide attractive objectives and encourage healthy recreational activities.

Inter-relationships with other topics

➤ Topic 1: Climatic Factors	131
➤ Topic 3: Water	145
➤ Topic 5: Material Assets	173
➤ Topic 6: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	193
➤ Topic 7: Landscape and Cultural Heritage	253

Appendix 3: Boundaries and statistical areas used in the analysis of the Cairngorms National Park

Population and Demographics

The population and demographic information contained within this publication is mostly based on data zones aggregated to a larger geographical area, which roughly corresponds with the area of the Cairngorms National Park.

Data zones are the standard small area geography used by the Scottish Government (SG). In general they have populations of between 500 and 1,000 residents. Data zone boundaries do not exactly match the National Park boundary and so, for the purpose of statistical analysis, data zones are included or excluded based on the 'population weighted centroid'. This is a standard procedure for assigning the population of a small geography to a large geography if the former does not wholly fit within the boundaries of the latter or lies across the border of two large geographies. This is the methodology used in National Records of

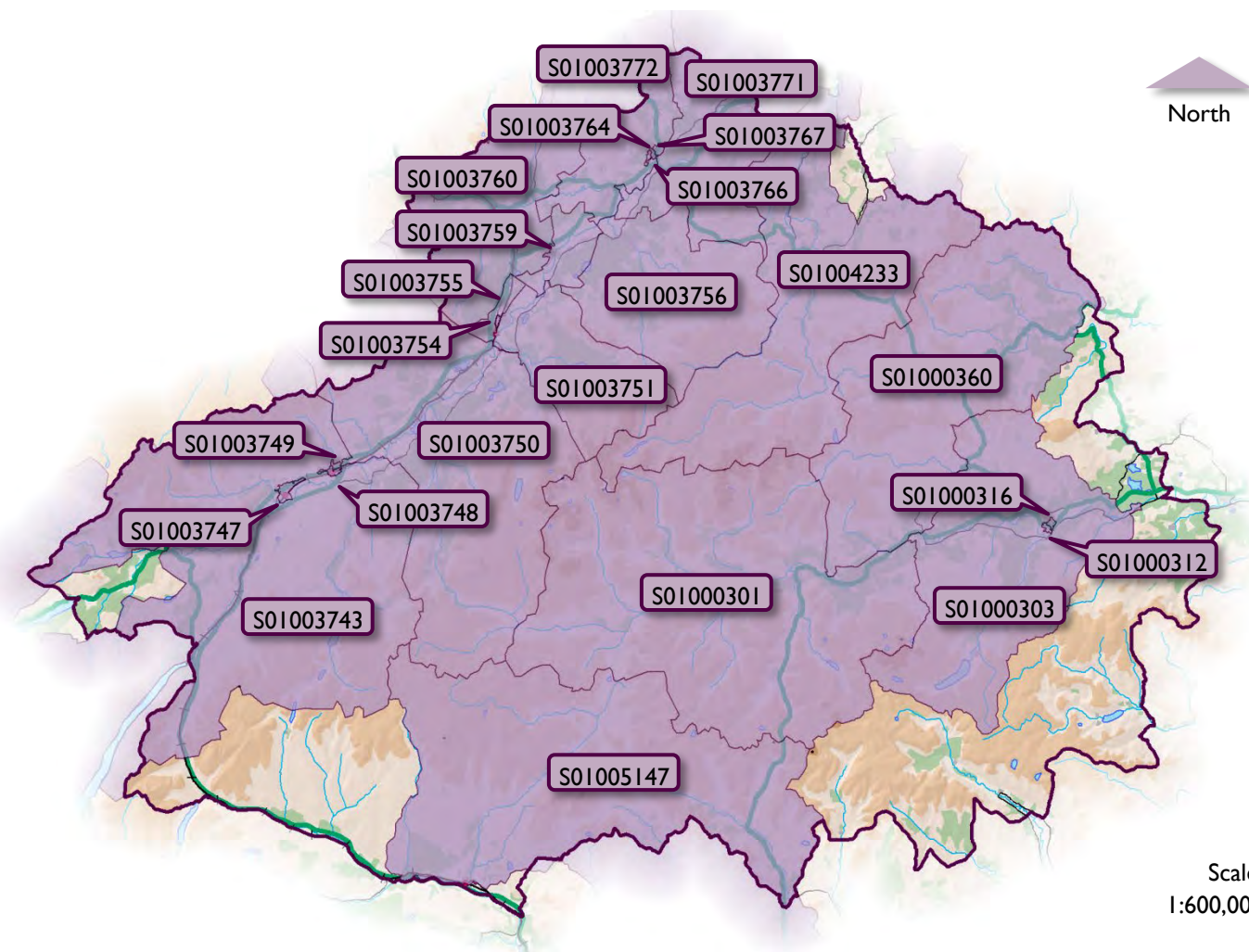
Scotland's (NRS) population projections for National Parks and Strategic Development Plan Areas (National Records of Scotland, 2014), and so for the sake of transparency and consistency, the same approach has been applied to all relevant data-sets within this document.

It should be noted that the NRS has not in the past included data zone S01005147 / S01011981 within its projections. It is assumed that this is because the data zone, which is entirely within Perth and Kinross, only became part of the National Park with the boundary change in 2010. The population weighted centroid is however within the National Park and therefore the data zone has been included within the CNPA's own analyses of the National Park's demographic and socio-economic character.

The population weighted centroid is essentially the point in the area where population density is the same all around the point, or put more simply, the population 'centre of gravity' of the area. A data zone has been allocated to the

National Park area if the population weighted centroid lies within it.

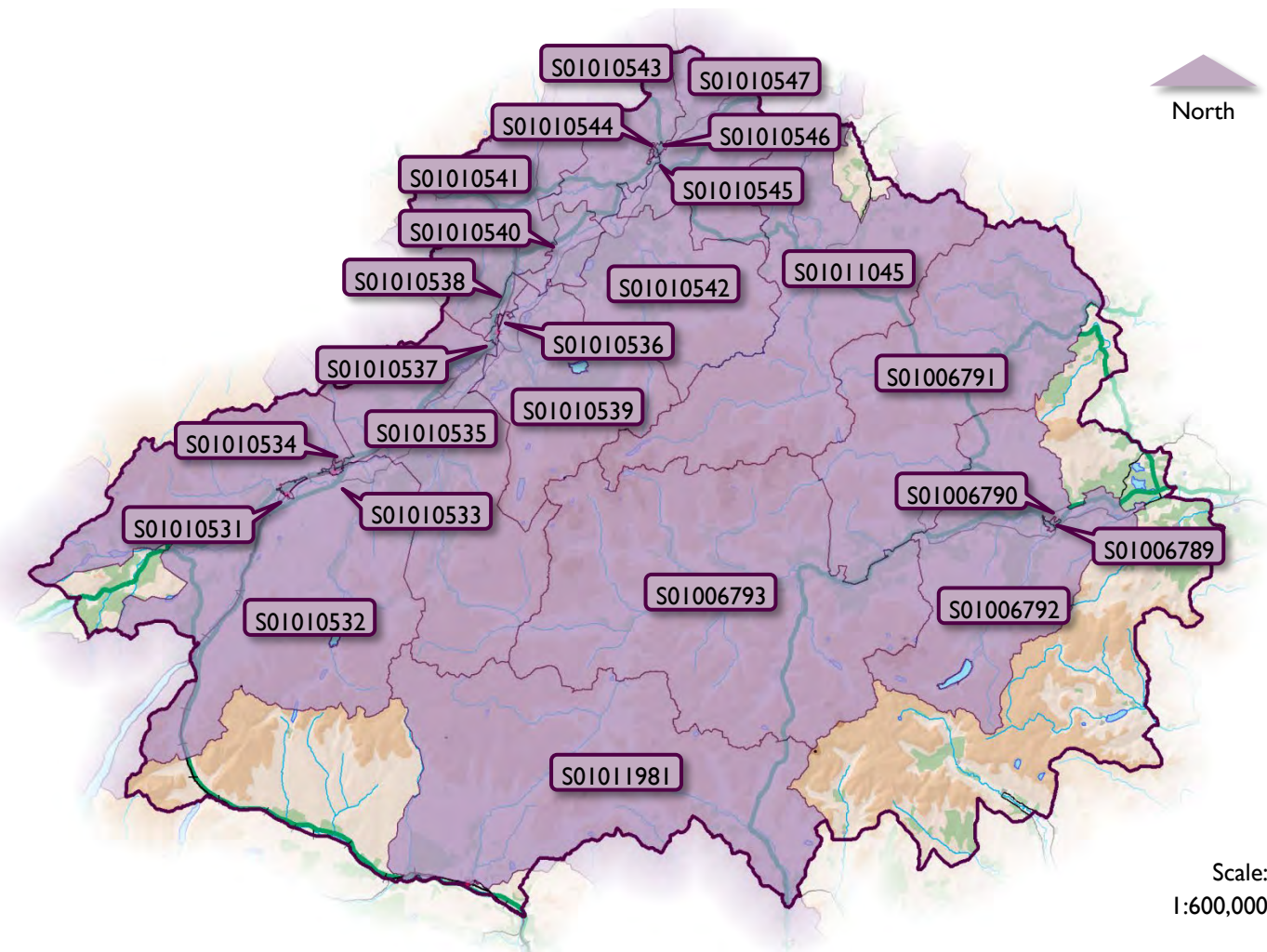
It should be noted that the Scottish Government published revised 2011 Data Zones on 6 November 2014 and that these geographies replace the original 2001 boundaries used in the NRS population projections (National Records of Scotland, 2014). At a National Park level the changes are very minor with the 2011 data zone boundaries corresponding closely with those of the 2001 ones. This however means that within this document both 2001 and 2011 data zones are used, as at the time of writing large amounts of data was not yet available in for the revised data zones. Based on this methodology, the data zones shown in [Error! Reference source not found.](#) and [Error! Reference source not found.](#) have been chosen to represent the National Park.



2001 Scottish Data Zones	Aberdeenshire	S01000301 S01000303 S01000312 S01000316 S01000360
	Highland	S01003743 S01003747 S01003748 S01003749 S01003750 S01003751 S01003754 S01003755 S01003756 S01003759 S01003760 S01003764 S01003766 S01003767 S01003771 S01003772
	Moray	S01004233
	PKC	S01005147

Figure 179 2001 Scottish Data Zones

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2011 Scottish Data Zones	Aberdeenshire	S01006789 S01006790 S01006791 S01006792 S01006793
	Highland	S01010531 S01010532 S01010533 S01010534 S01010535 S01010536 S01010537 S01010538 S01010539 S01010540 S01010541 S01010542 S01010543 S01010544 S01010545 S01010546 S01010547
	Moray	S01011045
	PKC	S01011981

Figure 180 2011 Scottish Data Zones.

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Though the actual National Park boundary does not precisely match the one derived from the data zones, the difference between the two is very small in terms of population. In 2012, data zone populations were estimated to be just 1.89% less than the overall National Park population (National Records of Scotland, 2014).

Notably, the National Park boundary does not coincide with the data zone boundary around Boultenstone and Dinnet to the east, Glen Clova to the south west, Glenlivet to the north east, and the area east of Loch Laggan. Consequently, these areas are omitted with the omission of the area around Glen Clova meaning that no part of the Angus Council area is included in the data zone boundary.

More detailed maps that show the location of population weighted centroids are available within the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics - Boundary Mapping section of the SG website:

www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/sns/BoundaryMapping

A paper describing the methodology for calculating data zone centroids can be found on the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics - Reference Material page of the SG website:

www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/sns/SNSRef

Waterbodies

SEPA are the responsible authority for monitoring water quality in Scotland to the requirements set out by the WFD. The Directive requires all water features in a category (i.e. rivers, lochs, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater) above a certain size threshold to be defined as waterbodies. For Scotland, this was carried out using a combination of typology data and data on ecosystem health (from both SEPA data and consultation with external stakeholders). Waterbodies are by definition of the same typology and overall quality along their length. (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, 2007).

By their nature, waterbodies do not exactly match the National Park boundary. It is also clear that factors affecting a waterbody in the upper part of a catchment area may

also affect other waterbodies in its lower part. Therefore, a judgment as to the waterbodies to include in the baseline for the National Park must be made. For the purpose of this analysis, all waterbodies located within or overlapping the National Park Boundary have been selected.

Table 41 provides the reference numbers for these waterbodies and it is these that form the basis for the information presented in **Figure 21** to **Figure 24**. Data for the whole of Scotland may be gained from:

www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/water-body-classification/

Table 42 Waterbodies within or overlapping the Cairngorms National Park.

River Spey Catchment Area			River Dee Catchment Area			South Esk Catchment Area		
Rivers			Rivers			Rivers		
➤ 23084	➤ 23115	➤ 23141	➤ 23332	➤ 23351	➤ 23362	➤ 5800	➤ 5810	
➤ 23085	➤ 23116	➤ 23142	➤ 23339	➤ 23352	➤ 23363	➤ 5801	➤ 5813	
➤ 23086	➤ 23117	➤ 23143	➤ 23340	➤ 23353	➤ 23364	River Tay Catchment Area		
➤ 23090	➤ 23118	➤ 23144	➤ 23343	➤ 23354	➤ 23365	Rivers		
➤ 23091	➤ 23119	➤ 23145	➤ 23344	➤ 23355	➤ 23366	➤ 6523	➤ 6598	➤ 6608
➤ 23092	➤ 23121	➤ 23146	➤ 23345	➤ 23356	➤ 23367	➤ 6524	➤ 6599	➤ 6609
➤ 23093	➤ 23122	➤ 23148	➤ 23346	➤ 23357	➤ 23368	➤ 6536	➤ 6600	➤ 6610
➤ 23094	➤ 23123	➤ 23149	➤ 23347	➤ 23358	➤ 23372	➤ 6540	➤ 6601	➤ 6836
➤ 23095	➤ 23124	➤ 23150	➤ 23348	➤ 23359	➤ 23577	➤ 6541	➤ 6602	➤ 6911
➤ 23096	➤ 23125	➤ 23151	➤ 23349	➤ 23360		➤ 6544	➤ 6603	➤ 6912
➤ 23097	➤ 23126	➤ 23152	➤ 23350	➤ 23361		➤ 6545	➤ 6605	➤ 6914
➤ 23100	➤ 23127	➤ 23638	Lochs			➤ 6546	➤ 6606	➤ 6915
➤ 23101	➤ 23128	➤ 23639	➤ 100192	➤ 100202		➤ 6552	➤ 6607	
➤ 23102	➤ 23129	➤ 23640	River Don Catchment Area			River Lochy Catchment Area		
➤ 23103	➤ 23130	➤ 23641	Rivers			Rivers		
➤ 23104	➤ 23131	➤ 23907	➤ 23294	➤ 23297	➤ 23299	➤ 20347		
➤ 23105	➤ 23132	➤ 23908	➤ 23295	➤ 23298	➤ 23578	River Deveron Catchment Area		
➤ 23106	➤ 23133	➤ 23909	North Esk Catchment Area			Rivers		
➤ 23110	➤ 23134	➤ 23910	Rivers			➤ 23187		
➤ 23111	➤ 23136	➤ 23913	➤ 5702	➤ 5704	➤ 5722			
➤ 23112	➤ 23137	➤ 23914	➤ 5703	➤ 5721	➤ 5723			
➤ 23113	➤ 23138		Lochs					
➤ 23114	➤ 23140		➤ 100209					
Lochs								
➤ 100181	➤ 100187	➤ 100195						
➤ 100182	➤ 100189	➤ 100199						
➤ 100183	➤ 100193							

Appendix 4: Consultation Responses

Scoping Report

Table 43 Responses to consultation on Scoping Report and the actions taken in response.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
Scoping Report Consultation				
Historic Environment Scotland	General	We note that the historic environment (under landscape and cultural heritage) has been scoped into the assessment. On the basis of the information provided, we are content with this approach and are satisfied with the scope and level of detail proposed for the assessment, subject to the detailed comments provided in the attached annex.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	General	We note that it is proposed that the Main Issues Report and its Environment Report shall be subject to consultation for a period of 6 weeks between February and April 2017. We are content with the length of consultation period proposed. Please note that, for administrative purposes, we consider that the consultation period commences on receipt of the relevant documents by the SEA Gateway.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA although period over which consultation will take place has been changed to November 2017 to March 2018.
	Policy Context	We welcome the way in which the context of the Plan has been identified and presented in Appendix I. You may also wish to include the Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland (2014) and the section referring to the Managing Change in the Historic Environment series should be updated to refer to the Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement 2016.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Baseline	We welcome that the environmental baseline includes cultural heritage. We would note that our information	The CNPA welcomes the comment.	Suggested change made.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		currently indicates that there are 106 scheduled monuments within the National Park boundary rather than the 110 indicated in Table 2 and Appendix 2, Topic 7.		
	Baseline	We are content that cultural heritage is scoped into the environmental assessment and that both positive and negative impacts are considered.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Baseline	We are content with the SEA objective for Topic 7 which reflects the first aim of the Cairngorms National Park Authority. Regarding the SEA sub-objectives, you may wish to consider adding 'where appropriate' to this objective (before the word enhance) for it to read 'value, protect and, where appropriate, enhance the historic and cultural environment and its assets.'	We welcome the comment, but disagree. The word 'appropriate' is notoriously ambiguous within the field of spatial planning and should be avoided. We are content with the scope of the sub-objective.	No change to the SEA.
	Baseline	We welcome the references to the inter-relationships between the topics, however, you may wish to consider including Landscape and Cultural Heritage as an inter-relationship at topic 1a, as the sub-	The CNPA welcomes the comment and proposes a change to address the identified issue.	Include Landscape and Cultural Heritage as an inter-relationship at topic 1a

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		objective to support investment in suitable renewable energy resources could have considerable implications for cultural heritage. We welcome the references to cultural heritage and the built environment in topics 8a and 8b.		
	Compatibility of SEA objectives	While we welcome the easy to view matrix format of Figure 3 it would be helpful if objective 7 on both axes could refer to landscape and cultural heritage. We would also suggest that there may be the possibility for objective 3 Flood Risk to have a relationship with objective 7 landscape and cultural heritage, as depending on the scale of development to reduce flood risk (flood alleviation schemes etc.) there is the potential for impacts to cultural heritage assets.	The CNPA welcomes the comment and proposes a change to address the identified issue	Landscape and cultural heritage referred to on both axes of Table 3.
			While the CNPA agrees that there is a relationship it does not believe that the objectives are necessarily incompatible. The relationship in Table 3 is therefore identified as being uncertain.	
	Proposed Assessment Framework	We are content with the proposed assessment matrix (Table 5) and welcome that it includes scope for	CNPA welcome the comment.	Table has been split into two.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		narrative commentary to complement a scoring system and also that mitigation measures will be recorded within the assessment matrix. We also welcome the proposed approach to proportionate assessment, focusing on significant effects. We would suggest that Table 6 is separated more clearly into two parts to avoid any confusion or assumed relationship between the significance of effect and the scale and permanence of effect.		
	Predicting the Effects of Implementation	We welcome the early engagement with key stakeholders and interested parties, we would be happy to continue to provide advice and information regarding baseline information, alternatives, mitigation and enhancement throughout the Plan process.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Mitigation & Enhancement and Monitoring	We note that recommendations for mitigation and enhancement will be proposed and that a monitoring framework will be provided. We look forward to further details on	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		these subjects as the assessment progresses.		
	Appendix 2	The references to Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) throughout this topic (for example in the Gardens and Designed Landscapes and Battlefields sections) should be updated to reflect the replacement of SHEP by the Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (2016).	Comment noted.	References to SHEP replaced with reference to Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (2016).
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)	We consider that the PPS listed in Appendix I provides a good start at providing a background framework to the development of the plan	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)	Some of the PPS included have themselves been subject to SEA. Where this is the case you may find it useful to prepare a summary of the key SEA findings that may be relevant to The Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2020 (LDP).		
			Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		This may assist you with data sources and environmental baseline information and also ensure the current SEA picks up environmental issues or mitigation actions which may have been identified elsewhere.		

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)	<p>For your information, we have recently updated our SEA Guidance in relation to our interests. Direct links are provided here for your convenience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ LUPS-SEA-GUI - Guidance on consideration of air in Strategic Environmental Assessment ➤ LUPS-SEA-GU2 - Guidance on consideration of soil in Strategic Environmental Assessment ➤ LUPS-SEA-GU3 - Guidance on consideration of water in Strategic Environmental Assessment ➤ LUPS-SEA-GU4 - Guidance on consideration of material assets in Strategic Environmental Assessment ➤ LUPS-SEA-GU5 Guidance on consideration of human health in Strategic Environmental Assessment 	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Baseline information	Table 2 provides a good summary of baseline data and the aspects of the environment where we have an interest. However, we note that in	CNPA welcome the comment.	Update baseline to reflect 2014 figures.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		Table 2, page 12, 2013 figures have been used to illustrate the overall status of waterbodies. Whilst in Topic 3 chapter 2014 data is included. As you are aware through our recent consultation response to the ER for the Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017-2022 (PSC/147769) 2015 figures are now available for waterbody status and we ask that these are used in the preparation of the finalised ER for the LDP.		
	Baseline information	With regards to flooding, we welcome the inclusion of reference to potential risk of flooding from small water courses.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Environmental problems	We consider that the environmental problems described highlight the main issues of relevance for the SEA topics within our remit.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Alternatives	We note and welcome that during the development of the LDP alternatives will be considered and that reasonable alternatives identified during the preparation of the plan will be assessed as part of the SEA	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		process. We note the findings of the assessment will inform the choice of the preferred option and will be documented in the Environmental Report.		
	Scoping in / out of environmental topics	We agree that in this instance all environmental topics should be scoped into the assessment, as detailed in Table 3	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Methodology for assessing environmental effects	We support the proposal to use the SEA objectives as assessment tools as they allow a systematic, rigorous and consistent framework with which to assess environmental effects.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		We welcome the proposed assessment matrix in Table 5. It will help to fully explain the rationale behind the assessment results and will give the opportunity for transparency and background understanding to the scores given.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		Where it is expected that other plans, programmes or strategies are better placed to undertake more detailed assessment of environmental	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		effects this should be clearly set out in the Environmental Report.		
		We would expect all aspects of the PPS which could have significant effects to be assessed	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		When it comes to setting out the results of the assessment in the Environmental Report please provide enough information to clearly justify the reasons for each of the assessments presented. It would also be helpful to set out assumptions that are made during the assessment and difficulties and limitations encountered.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Design of the Assessment Matrices	We are content with the proposed detailed assessment matrix and particularly welcome the commentary box to fully explain the rationale behind the assessment results. We also welcome the link between effects and mitigation / enhancement measures in the proposed assessment framework and the consideration of mitigation of impacts.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		We are generally content with the proposed SEA objectives to be used in the assessment.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		However we do have a comment on the sub-objective encouraging the restoration of a natural flood regime within SEA objective 3a Reduce flood risk in Table 4. While we agree in principle that natural flood management can have benefits we would caution that any proposals for natural flood management practices are carefully considered to ensure that they are appropriate and does not increase flood risk elsewhere	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees. Such factors will need careful consideration. However, in the interest of proportionality, they are best considered at the context of the Proposed Plan.	No change to the SEA.
	Assessment of land allocations – relevant to development plan SEA only	When it comes to assessment of the effects of allocations or sites we advocate a rigorous methodology which clearly assesses potential effects on all environmental topics. Our experience in relation to assessment of allocations is that it can be a much easier and useful exercise for the plan-maker if the assessment is made against a range of related questions, rather than directly against the environmental	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		topics. This allows a very practical assessment to take place which clearly highlights the environmental benefits and costs of each individual allocation. As an example, assessing the allocation against the question “Can the allocation connect to public sewage infrastructure?” gives a clear practical view on how this allocation is likely to affect the water environment.		
		We would draw your attention to the joint SEA and development plan site assessment proforma which sets out the issues which we require to be addressed in more detail.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Mitigation and enhancement	We would encourage you to use the assessment as a way to improve the environmental performance of individual aspects of the final option; hence we support proposals for enhancement of positive effects as well as mitigation of negative effects.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		It is useful to show the link between potential effects and proposed	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		mitigation / enhancement measures in the assessment framework.		
		We would encourage you to be very clear in the Environmental Report about mitigation measures which are proposed as a result of the assessment. These should follow the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate).	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		One of the most important ways to mitigate significant environmental effects identified through the assessment is to make changes to the plan itself so that significant effects are avoided. The Environmental Report should therefore identify any changes made to the plan as a result of the SEA.	Comment noted.	Mitigation measures will be developed through the LDP process. It will not be possible to finalise these until at least the development of the Proposed Plan, when detailed policies and allocations are set out.
		Where the mitigation proposed does not relate to modification to the plan itself then it would be extremely helpful to set out the proposed mitigation measures in a way that clearly identifies: (1) the measures required, (2) when they would be required and (3) who will be required to implement them	Comment noted.	Mitigation measures will be developed through the LDP process. It will not be possible to finalise these until at least the development of the Proposed Plan, when detailed policies and allocations are set out. No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Monitoring	It is noted that proposals for monitoring indicators will be developed iteratively during the assessment of the draft LDP and confirmed in the finalised ER. Early consideration to the monitoring approach particularly in the choice of indicators is welcomed. It would be helpful if the ER included a description of the measures envisaged to monitor the significant environmental effects of the plan.	Comment noted.	A draft monitoring framework has been developed, which builds on the framework developed for the NPPP. There is no requirement for bespoke SEA monitoring, however indicators will be refined as the LDP process progresses.
	Consultation period	We are satisfied with the proposal for a 6 week consultation period for the Environmental Report	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	General	We would find it helpful if the ER included a summary of the scoping outcomes and how comments from the Consultation Authorities were taken into account.	Comment noted.	<i>Et voilà.</i>
NatureScot	General	We assume that a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) will be carried out in due course. We recommend that the HRA is carried out at the same time as the preparation of the Main Issues Report (MIR) for the LDP, and used	Comment noted.	The HRA and SEA have been carried out at the same time and will evolve together as the LDP process progresses.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		to inform both documents (particularly when identifying preferred allocations).		
	Baseline	Page 13 and other locations (especially pages 102 – 107): We welcome that geodiversity is included in the scoping report, however we feel that it's inclusion in the Material Assets section is confusing. This is because, unlike the other features identified in this section, it is not a man-made asset but a natural feature. We recommend that consideration of geodiversity is moved into the Soil sections instead.	CNPA welcomes the comment. However, material assets are not all man made. In the case of geodiversity and minerals may be regarded as such.	No change to the SEA.
	Baseline	Pages 14, 163, 165: Reference to the Ladder Hills Special Protection Area (SPA) should be removed, as this site ceased being considered as a candidate SPA some years ago.	CNPA welcomes the comment.	References to Ladder Hills SPA removed.
	Baseline	Page 16, fourth point in the Landscape and Cultural Heritage baseline column: Reference should be made to Wild Land Areas (WLAs) rather than “wild land”. This is to avoid confusion with landscape with wildness characteristics that are not	CNPA welcomes the comment.	References changed to ‘Wild Land Areas’.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		part of WLAs, and are considered under different policies in Scottish Planning Policy (SPP).		
	baseline	<p>Page 27, Figure 3: Our advice is that the figure should be reviewed, as we consider that there are relationships between some of the objectives/topics that are currently identified as having no relationship. For example, Objective 2 (air quality) could be considered as relevant to 1b (climate change) due to carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that can affect air quality for people and nature. Objectives 6a (biodiversity) and 6b (woodland management) could be considered as relevant to Objective 1b (resilience to climate change), due to climate change affecting the species and habitats capable of surviving in the Park, as well as increasing the transmission of pests and diseases. Objective 7 (landscape) could be considered as relevant to Objectives 3a (flood risk) and 3b (water quality) as both have the potential for landscape scale change. Objective 8a</p>	<p>CNPA welcomes the comment. It is not the intention of the table to identify relationships but the compatibility between objectives. For example, there is indeed a relationship between objectives 1b and 2 however it is not an incompatible one, hence the conclusion in the table. Inter-relationships between topics have however been identified throughout the document,</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		(health and wellbeing) could be considered as relevant to Objective 6a (biodiversity) as being outdoors and experiencing nature is reported to have positive mental and physical benefits for people. Objective 8a (health and wellbeing) could be considered as relevant to Objective 6b (woodland management) for the same reasons but also for access and recreation opportunities that may be created/improved.		
	Baseline	Table 6: We find this table confusing, and recommend that it is split into two, one for significance of effect and another for scale and permanence of effect. This is because, at the moment, if the table is read across the rows, it appears that major positive effects can only occur at a local level, minor positive effects at a regional level, etc. Separating the table would help readers understand that the judgement of the significance of the effect is separate from the judgement as to the scale and permanence of the effect.	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees.	Table has been split into two.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	PPS	<p>Recommend adding Soils to the SEA Issue/Topic for the below rows in the table. This is because soils are a relevant to the PPS identified either directly (eg a peatland Special Area of Conservation) or indirectly as the protection and use of soils underpin many land uses, functions and services</p> <p>p37, third row, Habitats Directive; p38: second row, WFD; p40, second row, Birds Directive; p43, first row, Biological Diversity; p44, second row, Habitats Regulations; p45, third row, Flood Risk Management; p45, second row, Land Reform; p45, fourth row, NCA; p52: fifth row, SBS; p55, fourth row, UK post 2010; p57, third row, Cairngorms Nature Action Plan; p57, fourth row, Active Cairngorms</p>	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees.	Reference to 'Soil' made under requested PPS.
		<p>Recommend adding Biodiversity to the SEA Issue/Topic for the below rows in the table. This is because biodiversity is a relevant to the PPS</p>	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees.	Reference to 'Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora' made under requested PPS.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		identified eg as pollutants adversely affect biodiversity, biodiversity relies upon the feature identified (eg soils underpin the wider ecosystem), etc. p39, second row, Groundwater p42, fifth row, Thematic Strategy p45, third row, Flood Risk p58, third row, Economic Development Strategies		
	PPS	Pages 37 - 60: We recommend adding Landscape to the SEA Issue/Topic for the following row in the table. This is because significant development could have landscape scale effects: p58, third row, Economic Development Strategies.	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees.	Reference to 'Landscape and Cultural heritage' made under requested PPS.
		Pages 110 – 118, Transport Infrastructure. This section does not recognise the existing infrastructure for active travel within the Park. Page 251 states that over half of workers travel less than 10km to their place of work. This presents opportunities to reduce reliance on the private car by increasing active travel opportunities, which may have	CNPA welcomes the comment, however active travel infrastructure such as core paths and other rights of way is covered under Topic 8: Population and Human Health.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		positive or negative environmental effects depending on location and construction. It is therefore surprising that active travel infrastructure is not identified in this section of the report. We recommend that its inclusion is explored, particularly given the priority of travel modes identified in Scottish Planning Policy paragraph 273. Our advice is that it would be useful to highlight some specific active travel improvements that could be implemented within the lifetime of the 2020 Plan within the MIR. These could then be assessed in the Environmental Report. (This would also ensure that specific examples are identified to encourage progress, and enable progress to be monitored.)		
	Appendix 2	Pages 123 - 143 Table 13, pages 147 – 158 Table 14 and pages 161 – 164 Table 15. Some of the information contained in the tables has been superseded since we provided you with data earlier this year. This is a result of more recent survey work	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees.	Tables have been updated with information provided for the NPPP's final SEA, which was published in June 2017.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		having gone through the quality assurance process and being published. We therefore recommend that the Park Authority contact us for the most up to date data when compiling the Environmental Report, in case further changes have occurred.		
	Appendix 2	Pages 123 – 166. In addition to the advice above, we also recommend that for the Environmental Report, it would be sufficient to provide just the text on the overall picture, ie the information presented on pages 144 and 145, pages 159 – 160 and pages 165 – 166. If it is felt necessary to include the full data as well, we recommend that the information in Tables 13 – 15 is presented in an Annex to the Environmental Report. This would allow the key points about the condition of protected areas to be more obvious and quickly accessed within the Report.	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees but is satisfied with the level of detail provided.	No change to the SEA.
	Appendix 2	Page 182, Table 19, Freshwater. As abstraction pressures are of concern for the River Dee SAC in particular,	CNPA welcomes the comment, however the issues identified in the table are those identified by	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Scoping Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		we recommend that this Issue is added to the table.	Cairngorms Nature Action Plan 2013-2018. They will be reviewed in line with this document.	
	Appendix 2	Page 196, National Scenic Areas (NSAs). We recommend removal of the text referring to the 1978 descriptions of the NSA special qualities, as this work has been superseded by the special qualities presented in the 2010 publication on The Special Landscape Qualities of the Cairngorms National Park. Whilst we recognise that the original special qualities of the NSAs do not differ significantly from the 2010 list of qualities of the Park as a whole, reference to the 1978 work implies that it has not be reviewed since then, which is incorrect.	CNPA welcomes the comment, however it does not agree with that this is the implication or that it is necessary to remove the reference to a publically available document.	No change to the SEA.

MIR Environmental Report

Table 44 Responses to consultation on MIR Environmental Report Report and the actions taken in response.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
MIR Environmental Report Consultation				
Historic Environment Scotland	General	<p>We welcome the clear, concise presentation of the Environmental Report (ER), and we are broadly content with the summary findings of effects on the historic environment. However, we consider that in relation to the site assessments, effects on the historic environment, and related mitigation measures, have not been fully recognised in some cases. We have provided detailed comments on this and other elements of the ER in annex A below.</p> <p>None of the comments contained in this letter constitute a legal interpretation of the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. They are intended rather as helpful advice, as part of our commitment to capacity building in SEA.</p>	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Assessment of sites	<p>The methodology proposed at scoping included the combination of landscape and cultural heritage within a single SEA objective. Whilst we continue to be content with this approach in principle, our review of the site assessments suggests that the focus in assessment and /or reporting of effects has been on the landscape elements of the objective, rather than the sub-objectives addressing the historic environment.</p> <p>In many cases neither the site assessment pro-forma nor the environmental assessment recognises that heritage assets are either within or adjacent to the site, or provide an analysis of potential effects. In other cases, the site assessment pro-forma records heritage assets/s, but no analysis of effects is recorded, and the assessment scorings do not appear to indicate that historic environment effects have been taken into account. This is the case for several sites that have the potential</p>	Comment noted.	The greater focus on the historic environment has been taken in the assesment of the Proposed Plan.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		to affect non-designated heritage assets, but also some sites which may affect designated heritage assets:		
		<p>An Camas Mor: THC03 I</p> <p>The assessment for this site identifies significant negative effects for the landscape and cultural heritage topic, and we agree with this finding. However, the assessment commentary does not include any discussion of the effects on the historic environment, and in particular scheduled monument SM9337. In view of this, it is unclear whether the effects on the historic environment have been assessed. Additionally, the assessment has not identified any mitigation measures in relation to either the preferred or alternative options. We would have expected the assessment to clearly set out whether the two options have differing environmental effects and mitigation requirements, to better inform decision making and consultation in relation to the two options.</p>	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Recognition of the SM, which is not within the site boundary, has been added to the assessment.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		Blair Atholl: PKC004 This non-preferred site contains or is adjacent to scheduled monument SM730 (adjacent to Clach na h'lobairt, standing stone, Blair Atholl), and we consider that development of the site has potential for negative effects on the heritage asset. However, the assessment gives no indication that effects on the heritage asset have been considered, or that any mitigation measures have been identified.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
		Blair Atholl: PKC006 This site is within the Blair Castle Inventory Designed Landscape, and consequently we consider that development of the site has potential for negative effects on the heritage asset. However, the assessment gives no indication that effects on the heritage asset have been considered, or that any mitigation measures have been identified.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		Braemar: AB002 This site contains A listed Tomintoul Croft and we consider that development of the site has potential for negative effects on the heritage asset. However, the assessment gives no indication that effects on the heritage asset have been considered, or that any mitigation measures have been identified.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
		Inverdrurie: THC025 This site contains a B listed building (LB252 Dell Steading (Rothiemurchus Estate Office). Whilst the environmental assessment recognises this, and suggests that demolition of the building may occur, it finds only a minor negative effect, due to uncertainty over the demolition. We suggest that it would have been helpful for the assessment to consider the effects of the two likely development scenarios, i.e. the demolition of the buildings or their	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		retention and reuse. This would allowed the assessment to contribute to a more nuanced consideration of the acceptability of the site, and would led to identification of helpful mitigation and /or enhancement measures relevant to each scenario. We consider that a scenario involving demolition of the listed building would more accurately be described as significant negative effect. However, appropriate reuse and / or conversion of the buildings would be likely to have positive effects for the historic environment.		

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Mitigation	<p>One of the key elements of environmental assessment is the identification of mitigation measures and opportunities for enhancement. Whilst in some cases the site assessment matrix contains general recommendations for mitigation measures, it is not clear how these measures will be integrated into delivery of the Local Development Plan. Effective integration of mitigation into the Plan itself and lower levels of delivery is essential to reducing negative effects and increasing opportunities for positive effects.</p> <p>In view of this, we recommend that as you move towards Proposed Plan stage, you consider in more detail which mitigation measures are necessary, and how, when and by whom they should be delivered, eg through action programmes, masterplanning, developer requirements etc. Wherever</p>	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Because the proposed plan includes detailed policies and site schedules, it has been possible to outline the mitigation measures in place to address negative effects, including site specific measures such as the need for surveys.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		possible, measures should be site specific rather than generic.		

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	General	SEPA are content that the Environmental Report (ER) provides a satisfactory general assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the Cairngorms Local Development Plan 2020 Main Issues Report (MIR).	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		Subject to the detailed comments SEPA are generally content with the assessment findings.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		We consider that the ER document provides a good summary of the process and are generally in agreement with the detailed results of the assessments presented.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		The next ER should clearly outline proposed mitigation measures. For example, in the individual site assessments very few mitigation measures have been put forward. It would have been useful for initial ideas for mitigation to be outlined at this stage so that there was an early opportunity to provide comment on them.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Because the proposed plan includes detailed policies and site schedules, it has been possible to outline the mitigation measures in place to address negative effects, including site specific measures such as the need for surveys.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		SEPA are satisfied that most of our scoping report comments have been taken into account in the preparation of the ER and note the response Cairngorms National Park to our comments in Appendix 4 – Consultation Responses.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		SEPA have provided a separate response to the MIR (PCS/165156) where we have responded to the Main Issues questions. In addition, we have provided comments related to MIR allocations to the Adopted LDP policy framework. SEPA recommend that our comments to the MIR are considered in the revision of sites and policies environmental assessment in the next ER.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)	We consider all the PPS relevant to our interests as listed in Appendix I have been considered in the ER	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Baseline	SEPA note and welcome that a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		(SFRA) has been carried out at this stage and are satisfied that this has adequately informed the site assessment process. Most sites that have been identified at being at medium to high risk of flooding have not been carried forward into the plan as preferred sites and this we welcome. Further detailed comments on specific site flood risk assessment can be found in SEPA's MIR response and should be taken forward to the next ER report.		
		SEPA note 2014 figures for waterbody status have now been used throughout the ER, we highlight once again that 2015 figures are now available and we ask that these are used in the preparation of the finalised ER for the LDP. The water section refers to classification up to 2014.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Waterbody status information used in the assessment has been updated to take account of the latest available data.
		SEPA's Development Plan Guidance on Sustainable Resource Use and Energy recommends the use of the Scottish Government's Spatial	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		Planning Assessment for Climate Emissions (SPACE) tool. SPACE is designed as a straightforward means of informing the ER of the likely relevant emissions that will arise from the proposed spatial policies and guidance. We recommend the spatial strategy going forward should be informed by the SPACE tool. More information is available at the SPACE launch pad site.		
	Environmental Problems	As highlighted previously SEPA are generally satisfied with the section on environmental problems and the Main Issues identified in the MIR.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	General comment on assessments	SEPA are satisfied that on the whole the assessment scores are transparent with objective-specific comments given in the site assessment table.	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
		As a general comment on choosing “preferred options” SEA is meant to help inform this process. This means that the assessments should help decide which the ‘preferred’ options are, rather than SEA being carried	It should be noted that the LDP is not an entirely new plan, but an update of the existing LDP (2015), which was subject to its own SEA. Some of the sites included for allocation are	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		out once 'preferred' options have been established. This is not particularly apparent in terms of the Main Issues options. However, individual site assessment does appear to have been used to inform the MIR to some degree, which we welcome.	therefore already allocations, while others already benefit from planning consent. Options for new sites are limited; however, the SEA was used to inform the choice of preferred options, along with other criteria which are beyond the SEA.	
		<p>Looking at the site assessment table there appears to be some sites which would have major adverse effect on several issues when assessed against the SEA objectives but are still included in the MIR as 'preferred sites'.</p> <p>The conclusion to prefer these sites is not transparent, with no indication in the Addendum: Site Assessments of mitigation measures that would make these sites acceptable in terms of the SEA objectives. It is therefore not clear why the assessment leads to them being preferred sites over alternative sites that appear to have less adverse effect in relation to the SEA objectives, especially when no</p>	<p>The choice of sites is not solely based on the assessment of the SEA, and the choice of preferred site took in a range of considerations, including site viability, sequential location and landownership concerns.</p> <p>With respect to the sites specifically mentioned in this consultation response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ AB023 is no longer a preferred site on the basis of an objection from SEPA on flood risk grounds; ➤ PKC005 is clearly the best of the available 	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		overall score is given. For example AB023 Braemar, PKC005 Blair Atholl, THC016 Dalwhinnie, THC031 An Camas Mor, THC068 Carr-Bridge all have been assessed with at least two major effects but are preferred sites.	<p>housing sites in Blair Atholl after PKC003, which was also a Preferred Site e.g. PKC006 is even further away from the settlement core, PKC007 floods and PKC004 is a current caravan site with significant legal barriers to its use as a housing site;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ THC031 is an existing consent projected to be delivered over the plan period and beyond and therefore needs to be taken into account; ➤ THC068 is an existing economic development allocation and represents an ideal location for such a development, particularly considering the limited alternative options. 	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			It should also be noted, as stated in the Site Assessment section of the report, that all assessment 'scores' are pre-mitigation and that mitigation measures are designed to ensure significant adverse effects do not occur.	
	Existing Sites	<p>SEPA welcome that all sites have been assessed including those with existing planning permission and those carried forward from the current LDP. A planning permission may lapse but significant environmental effects due to changes in the environment or the most recent information may relate to the site. For example, revised flood risk information may be available which alters the potential environmental effects at the site and would require mitigation through a FRA for any future application.</p> <p>Where SEPA have identified this to be the case in Appendix 2 of our MIR response, SEPA recommend that a</p>	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Where required, the need for an FRA has been included within the site requirements section of the LDP.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		developer requirement is added to the plan to reflect this.		
		SEPA have made detailed comments in our MIR response for the Ballater HI site with regards to flood risk. We request the ER is updated to reflect these comments at Proposed Plan stage.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	<p>The study commissioned by Aberdeenshire has been taken account of in the site assessment and the following site specific mitigation recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adjustments to site layout to provide new open space in the areas that are at risk from flooding ➤ Requirement in the site information section of the LDP that development of the site take account of the Ballater Flood study commissioned by Aberdeenshire Council and that safe access and egress options need to be identified. ➤ Requirement for a Drainage impact assessment

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Sites not assessed	It appears that sites Kingussie ED3 and Dulnain Bridge EPI have been assessed or have not been included in the Addendum of site assessments. If they have not been assessed we request these are included in the next ER should they be carried forward into the Proposed Plan.	<p>Site ED3 in Kingussie was not assessed. The assessment in this Report is referenced under Kingussie ED2.</p> <p>Site EPI in Dulnain Bridge was assessed during in the Environmental Report on the MIR. The assessment in this Report is referenced under Dulnain Bridge H2.</p>	Assessments included in the Environmental Report on the Proposed Plan.
	Sites where flood risk has not been identified as a negative effect	<p>SEPA have assessed flood risk for all sites and note flood risk is not scored within the ER as a negative effect at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Aviemore THC045 and THC059, Grantown on Spey C2, T1, and THC048, ➤ Kingussie ED1, ➤ Newtonmore H1, ➤ Blair Atholl EP2, ED1, C1, PKC002, and PKC003. ➤ Braemar AB022, ➤ Cromdale ED1 and THC019, 	<p>Aviemore THC045 / 059 (now LTH1 – <i>note this allocation was removed at examination</i>): SEPA data indicates that this site is only at risk from small areas of surface water flooding. This is acknowledged in the assessment. The CNPA stands by the conclusion that “These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.” And that no negative effects need to be identified.</p>	<p>Acknowledge flood risk and amend assessments for sites (Objective 3a):</p> <p>Kingussie: C3 and C4 Blair Atholl: T2, T3 and ED1. Cromdale: ED1</p> <p>No further amendments required as sites not included within Proposed Plan.</p>

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kincraig ED1, THC046, and THC054 ➤ Glenshee PKC008, PKC009 and PKC010. <p>In addition sites Kingussie ED3 and do not appear to have been assessed at all. We recommend these sites are reassessed in this regard and the ER is amended appropriately after reviewing our comments in Appendix 2 of our MIR response. For example Kingussie ED1 where a large part of the site floods, we are of the opinion flood risk should be identified as negative.</p>	<p>Grantown-on-Spey THC048: This area was proposed for allotments. It is not proposed for allocation in the Proposed Plan and therefore no changes are necessary.</p> <p>C2: SEPA data indicates that this site is only at risk from small areas of surface water flooding. This has now been acknowledged in the assessment.</p> <p>T1: A small area of T1, which is already used by the site operator, is at risk from surface water flooding. It is not considered that this will result in negative effects arising from the Plan.</p> <p>Kingussie ED1 (now C3 and C4) the assessment acknowledged that around 70% of the site is affected by the medium probability river</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			<p>extent flood zone. However the overall assessment took into account the fact that most of the site is already developed in some form. The CNPA however agrees that redevelopment could result in negative effects and has changed the assessment accordingly.</p> <p>ED3 (now ED2) is assessed fully in the Environmental Report of the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>Newtonmore HI: The assessment acknowledges that around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone. This area is however confined to the south and is excluded from the site's developable area. Therefore it is considered that a conclusion of no negative effects is appropriate.</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			<p>Blair Atholl</p> <p>EP2 (now T3): Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. However the overall assessment took into account the fact that most of the site is already developed in some form. The CNPA however agrees that redevelopment could result in negative effects and has changed the assessment accordingly.</p> <p>ED1: The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. However the overall assessment took into account the fact that most of the site is already developed in some form. The CNPA however agrees that redevelopment could result in negative effects and has changed the assessment accordingly.</p> <p>CI (now T2): It is acknowledged that around 20% of the site is</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			<p>affected by the medium probability river flooding zone. This area is however either already developed or undevelopable. The CNPA however agrees that redevelopment could result in negative effects and has changed the assessment accordingly.</p> <p>PKC003 (now H2): The area proposed for allocation is not subject to any flooding. No changes are therefore needed in the assessment of the Proposed Plan. However, if proposals to expand the site come forward then the proposer will need to acknowledge the potential for negative effects.</p> <p>PKC002: The CNPA acknowledges and that a very small area of the site is at risk from medium probability surface water flooding (<5%). The site is however not preferred and will</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			<p>not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.</p> <p>Braemar</p> <p>AB022 (now H5): SEPA data does not indicate that any part of this site is at risk of fluvial or surface water flooding. The assessments conclusion of no predicted effects is therefore considered appropriate.</p> <p>Cromdale</p> <p>ED1: It is acknowledged that a very small area of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding zone (<5%). This area is however either already developed or</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			<p>undevelopable. The CNPA however agrees that redevelopment could result in negative effects and has changed the assessment accordingly.</p> <p>THC019: The CNPA acknowledges that a small area of the site is at medium risk of river flooding (<5%). The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.</p> <p>Kincraig EDI: SEPA data does not indicate that any part of this site is at risk of fluvial or surface water flooding. The assessments conclusion of no predicted</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			<p>effects is therefore considered appropriate.</p> <p>THC046, and THC054 (now ED2): The area proposed for allocation is not subject to any flooding. No changes are therefore needed in the assessment of the Proposed Plan. However, if proposals to expand the site come forward then the proposer will need to acknowledge the potential for negative effects.</p> <p>Glenshee PKC008, PKC009 and PKC010: The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. However none of these sites are preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process,</p>	

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
		Risk of flooding is also considered when scoring the climate change SEA Objective. It is therefore appropriate to allocate a significant negative score to this objective when flooding is an issue. SEPA request that this be done in the final ER.	The CNPA agrees that where amendments are made to acknowledge the potential adverse effects of flooding under objective 3a, then they need to be replicated under objective 1b).	Acknowledge flood risk and amend assessments for sites (Objective 1b): Kingussie: C3 and C4 Blair Atholl: T2, T3 and ED1. Cromdale: ED1 No further amendments required as sites not included within Proposed Plan.
	Sites where potential impact on wetlands has not been identified as a negative effect	The impact on wetlands appears to fall under SEA Objective 6a A. In SEPA's MIR response they have highlighted where a Phase 1 habitat survey is required to ascertain the likelihood of wetlands and specifically groundwater dependant terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE), being impacted by development. These habitats are protected under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and may be impacted upon by	The CNPA agrees that here relevant, reference to GWDTEs needs to be made within the assessments.	Ensure assessments in Proposed Plan take account of GWDTEs

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		windfarms and other development through the excavation of soil and bedrock during construction of roads, access tracks, foundations, trenches and borrow pits. Indeed dewatering of below ground activities may cause localised disruption to groundwater flow. This can impact on GWDTEs and nearby abstractions.		
	Co-location	<p>SEPA note the possible presence of wetlands has been noted on some site assessments, we note the following sites have not scored negatively under objective 6a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kinguissie THC53, ➤ Boat of Garten THC075, ➤ Braemar AB019, AB021 and AB024, ➤ Cromdale THC021, ➤ Nethy Bridge THC017 and THC052, ➤ Dalwhinnie THC015 and ➤ Dinnet AB014. 	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The sites referenced are however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. In some cases this only refers to part of the site, with the problematic parts lying outside of the proposed allocations. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		SEPA recommend these sites are reassessed in this regard and the ER is amended appropriately after reviewing our comments in Appendix 2 of our MIR response.	take this information into account.	
		In SEPA's response at to the MIR they have provided information identifying sites which lie in the vicinity of sites which are regulated by them and have advised which of these sites may result in a loss of amenity to neighbouring users, even when they are operating within their license parameters. These include Aviemore THC045/THC059 and Aviemore North and Dinnet AB013.	The CNPA agrees that here relevant, reference to these issues needs to be made within the assessments.	Ensure assessments in Proposed Plan take account of amenity issues relating to sites regulated by SEPA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Proposed Mitigation Measures	<p>SEPA note that the proposed mitigation measures for the SEA Objectives is provided in Table 9.</p> <p>As we highlighted at the scoping stage mitigating environmental effects is a very important aspect of SEA and we will expect the next ER to concentrate heavily on this aspect of the process.</p> <p>Where a proposed site in this ER has been found to have a significant negative effect SEPA would strongly encourage CNPA to revise the proposal to remove that effect before it is included in the Proposed Plan.</p>	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Because the proposed plan includes detailed policies and site schedules, it has been possible to outline the mitigation measures in place to address negative effects, including site specific measures such as the need for surveys. Where necessary, areas at risk from flooding have been either excluded from the development or identified as areas for new open space or as being possibly suitable for SuDs schemes.
		<p>SEA Objective 1b</p> <p>A further mitigation measures for this objective could be tied to Objective 3a in terms of flood risk avoidance taking into account climate change and the use of flood resistant building measures.</p>		

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		SEA Objective 2 In relation to SEA Objective 2, mitigation measures could include developer requirements to provide air quality impact assessments for combustion plant proposals and if air quality is covered specifically by any policy in the new LDP.	Comment noted, however the LDP does not contain any policies or proposals for combustion plants.	No change to the SEA.
		SEA Objective 3a SEPA have made specific recommendations on how flood risk should be mitigated and these are outlined in our response to the Main Issues Report. In relation to SEA objective 3a a further mitigation measures could include: be a developer requirement to undertake an FRA to inform site layout where flood risk has been identified; reduce the size of an allocation to remove the area indicatively found to be at risk from flooding; removed sites from the Plan that are at significant risk of flooding.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Site specific mitigation has identified where FRAs and DIAs are required and these have been incorporated into the site information section of the LDP. Where necessary site areas have been reduced where flooding is a risk, while in other instances areas which are at risk from flooding have been identified as suitable for new open space provision and, where appropriate, SuDS schemes.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		<p>SEA Objective 3b</p> <p>SEPA welcome the specific reference to potential negative effects from construction and stress the importance of construction SuDS in this regard. Strengthening policy requirements for water saving measures, buffer strips and good SuDS will also contribute to this objective.</p>	<p>The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.</p> <p>Policy 3.2 requires development to make sustainable use of resources, including water/</p> <p>Policy 10.1 covers a wide range of requirements, including SuDs and buffer strips</p> <p>Policy 10.2 requires developments to incorporate SuDS as proportionate to the scale and nature of the development.</p>	<p>These requirements are acknowledged in the proposed mitigation measures outlined in the SEA.</p>
		<p>SEA Objective 4</p> <p>After assessing the sites we agree with there will be little/no impact on peat as all but one site has likely to have peat and even this represents a very small percentage of the site area which can be avoided in detailed site design.</p>	<p>The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.</p> <p>The site in question is HI in Laggan. While the presence of peat on the site is likely to represent a very small percentage of its area, it is considered that mitigation may</p>	<p>According to the assessment of the site against Objective 4, site specific mitigation should include the requirement for a peat survey on site HI in Laggan.</p>

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			be necessary to ensure negative effects do not occur.	
		SEA Objective 6a The avoidance and provision of buffer strips around GWDTE would be a further mitigation measure here and a developer requirement to undertake a Phase I habitat survey on sites where GWDTE may be present would help in delivering this objective.	The CNPA acknowledge the comment. Buffer strips are a requirement of Policy 10.1.	Policy 10 forms part of the the LDP's built in mitigation and this has been considered in the SEA.
	Monitoring Framework	SEPA welcome the monitoring proposals outlined and think these are a reasonable and realistic set of proposals. With regards to peatland monitoring the area of peat lost as well as peatland restored would be a good indicator. Another of the indicators perhaps under biodiversity should be percentage loss of wetlands.	CNPA welcomes the comment and agrees with the inclusion of the additional peatland indicator. The wetland indicator is however more problematic as it requires both a definition of what a wetland is and for the change in that to be practically measurable. The emerging CNAP has an indicator about pond creations and it is therefore proposed that the SEA monitoring framework adopt this	Add the following indicators to the SEA monitoring framework: ➤ Area of peatland lost due to development ➤ Number of new ponds created, including SuDS ponds.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			as the appropriate wetland indicator.	
	Next steps	SEPA note the timescale for the preparation of the Proposed Plan and updated ER. They note no consultation period has been set for the next ER however we request a minimum of 6 weeks is given and longer would be most welcome.	The CNPA note the comment and commit to set the consultation period for a minimum period of 6 weeks.	Consultation period is set out within the Next Steps section of this report.
NatureScot	General	We have focussed our advice on the new allocations, both preferred and un-preferred. Our understanding is that the site assessment table presents scoring and assessment pre-mitigation. We have provided our advice on this basis. We have also provided advice on the individual allocations based on the size of the allocations in relation to the size of the existing settlement. This means that some of our advice is	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		precautionary, because there is limited information at this stage about the proposed number of units for many allocations, making it difficult to provide more site specific advice on the potential for significant environmental effects.		
		While it may appear that we have extensive advice on the ER of the MIR, we do appreciate that several of the issues are likely to have arisen because this stage in the planning process can limit the potential for full assessment. We also expect that the Park Authority is likely to already be addressing several of the issues as part of the preparation of the proposed Local Development Plan (LDP).	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.
	Environmental Report pages 35 – 41	Assessing the effects of Plan Options We find the categorisation by symbol and colouring of the assessment criteria useful. However, we do not find the radar graphs add value to the assessment. This is because they are, by necessity, presented at a very	Comment noted.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		small scale without segmentation or accompanying labels. This renders them confusing as they are almost impossible to interpret. The symbol and colour categorisation of the assessment criteria already provide a visual overview for each item that is assessed. Our advice is that the radar graphs are not necessary.		

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Environmental Report pages 61 – 68, Mitigation	The mitigation measures in the ER document appear to focus on Main Issues and SEA objectives, rather than being site specific and addressing issues for individual allocations. We would expect the ER for the proposed LDP to include mitigation measures for each allocation where mitigation is identified as being necessary to avoid or minimise significant environmental effects. This will be particularly important for allocations with the potential to have significant environmental effects on areas protected for nature conservation, both alone and cumulatively with other allocations. (Our advice on the allocations provided in our separate response to the MIR should help identify appropriate mitigation where necessary.)	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response.	Because the proposed plan includes detailed policies and site schedules, it has been possible to outline the mitigation measures in place to address negative effects, including site specific measures such as the need for surveys.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Environmental Report pages 56 – 59 Cumulative assessment	We have reservations about the cumulative assessment, as it appears to focus on the Main Issues and does not appear to include consideration of the potential cumulative impacts caused by the allocations. Cumulative environmental effects require specific attention to ensure appropriate mitigation is put in place at the allocation level. This is of particular importance for areas protected for nature conservation, such as the river Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and capercaillie Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Our advice is that the ER of the proposed LDP should include full cumulative assessment, including identification of mitigation measures where necessary, for both the policies and allocations.	<p>The CNPA notes the comment. However cumulative effects are not site specific. That is to say, while development might have a cumulative effect on a SEA Objective, the choice of one site over another in any particular settlement, would not. Indeed the same results would arise from any location, allocated or not. With respect to the issue of capercaillie, it is not the location of the sites that is the most problematic aspect, it is the level of development and this is not directed by the site, but the settlement strategy. The cumulative effects of the settlement strategy are considered in this report.</p> <p>It also needs to be recognised that the SEA is not the sole process of assessment undertaken on the LDP. A Habitats Regulations Appraisal has also been carried out, which has</p>	No change to SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
			resulted in an Appropriate Assessment around the likely significant effects arising from development on the qualifying interests of European sites. This has resulted in mitigation measures being included in the LDP. The issue is therefore considered to be fully addressed.	
	Environmental Report pages 69 – 73, Monitoring	While we welcome that monitoring is proposed, it is unclear what will happen to the results or in the event of an unexpected result. It would be helpful for the ER of the proposed LDP to include information on what will happen to monitoring results and what actions may be taken if the results are not as expected.	The CNPA welcomes the comment. As is stated in the Monitoring section of the Environmental Report, this Environmental Report is not the conclusion of the SEA process and the proposed monitoring framework will be refined following its publication. A finalised set of indicators will be set out in the Post-adoption Statement, which will be published following the LDP's approval by the Scottish Government.	No change to SEA.

	<p>Addendum: Site Assessments, presentation</p>	<p>The pdf site assessment table (referred to as “Addendum: Site Assessments” on the consultation webpage) unfortunately does not show all the text for each cell – where text over-fills cells it is truncated, meaning the full assessment is not visible. While this is not necessarily a significant issue for this stage in the process, it would be beneficial for complete text to be displayed for the next stage. For example, it would be helpful if the original excel spreadsheet could be provided instead of a pdf for the ER of the proposed LDP. This would also make navigating between allocations and objectives easier.</p> <p>- Addendum: Site Assessments, protected areas</p> <p>Unfortunately many of the assessments for allocations do not include recognition of proximity and/or connectivity to areas protected for nature conservation. As we understand that the assessments presented in the ER are pre-mitigation assessments, this means that many of these allocations have the potential to have significant environmental effects. We therefore</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>	<p>Full assessments of the sites taken forward into the Proposed Plan can be found in Appendix 7.</p>
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		<p>disagree with some of the scoring and provide advice in relation to protected areas for affected allocations in Annex I.</p> <p>- Assessment of changes other than allocations</p> <p>Several settlement boundaries and open space allocations (eg Carrbridge, Cromdale, Nethy Bridge, Dalwhinnie, Dinnet, Killiecrankie) have been changed/reduced compared to the current (2015) LDP. There is no explanation of why these changes have occurred, so it is difficult for us to comment fully on the implications of the changes for the SEA objectives. However we can advise that most of the removed areas of open space currently provide a buffer between development and areas protected for nature conservation, such as river SACs. In addition, we agree with paragraph 3.14 of the current (2015) LDP, which states about open space that "Land is identified where it is important to the amenity, setting and the overall fabric of settlements. These areas also provide locally important habitats or landscape features, or are important</p>		
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		recreational resources within settlements...".		
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Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		Our advice is therefore that the implications of the changes in settlement boundaries and reduction of open space on objectives relating to placemaking, active travel/ accessible recreation opportunities within settlements, areas protected for nature conservation and biodiversity will require assessment in the ER of the proposed LDP.		
	Ballater, Braemar, Dinnet	None of the assessments for allocations in these settlements includes consideration of the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC). As water supplying new development may be sourced by abstraction from the Dee, we recommend pre-mitigation scoring the allocations for these settlements as ‘-’ under objective 6a, due to the potential to cause likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the SAC. Some of the allocations may also cause disturbance to otter (through increase human activity, particularly dog walking), a qualifying interest of the SAC and also a	<p>The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		<p>European Protected Species, so this also needs consideration as part of the assessments.</p> <p>The assessments also need to include consideration of the two Deeside capercaillie Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Ballochbuie and Glen Tanar. Capercaillie are sensitive to disturbance from human activity on foot (particularly off-lead dog walking) and by bike. Woodlands outwith SPAs provide additional habitat that supports the population of capercaillie within SPAs. This means that impacts in one location supporting capercaillie (whether an SPA or supporting woodland) may have an effect on other capercaillie SPAs in the wider area. Cumulative effects caused by existing or planned proposals in combination with the individual allocation also need to be considered.</p>		
	Aviemore, THC031 (An Camas Mor extended area)	While we agree that objective 6a has a pre-mitigation score of “- -“, the assessment does not mention the River Spey SAC or Site of Special	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		Scientific Interest (SSSI), which runs along the western boundary of the extended allocation site. The impacts identified under objectives 3a and 3b also have the potential to cause likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of SAC. An additional impact that should also be recognised is potential disturbance of otter, one of the qualifying interests of the SAC and a notified feature of the SSSI, from increased human activity (particularly dog walking) along the banks of the river. Otter are also a European Protected Species, so the potential for adverse impacts on them as a protected species should also be recognised under objective 6a.	included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Aviemore, THC007 – THC014	We disagree with the -mitigation scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’, if not ‘- -’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (eg from development activities affecting water	The CNPA agrees with the comment and proposes that the factors be taken into account in the assessment of allocation M1, which is a composite of site THC007-THC014.	Account for potential effects on River Spey SAC and Kinveachy Forest SPA in assessment of M1.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		quality), and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie Special Protection Areas (SPAs), particularly Kinveachy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Aviemore, THC045 and THC059	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests, particularly Kinveachy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). For THC059, additional consideration is required as to how the A9 dualling will affect access	The CNPA agree with the recommendations.	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site LTH1 note this allocation was removed at examination.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		opportunities into Kinveachy forest in particular. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a, and consideration given as to whether the pre-mitigation impacts would be more appropriately scored as ‘- - ‘.		
	Aviemore, THC061	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘- ‘ at least, if not ‘- - ‘. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (eg from development activities affecting water quality or from human activity causing disturbance of otter), and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs, particularly Kinveachy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). Additional consideration is required as to how the A9 dualling	The CNPA agree with the recommendations.	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site M2.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		will affect access opportunities into Kinveachy forest in particular. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a. Otter are also a European Protected Species, so the potential for adverse impacts on them as a protected species should also be recognised under objective 6a.		
	North Aviemore	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’ at least, if not ‘- -’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (eg from development activities affecting water quality), and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs, particularly Kinveachy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). Additional consideration is	The CNPA agree with the recommendations.	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site LTH2 note this allocation was removed at examination.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		<p>required as to how the A9 dualling will affect access opportunities into Kinveachy forest in particular. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.</p> <p>The potential for adverse impacts on the following additional protected species also require recognition under objective 6a: There are badger in the fields to the east of the A95 - badgers and their setts are legally protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended). The majority of the proposed allocation is within the Northern Strathspey wildcat priority area and wildcat have been reported in this location. Wildcat are an EPS, and are sensitive to disturbance from human activity.</p>		
	Ballater, AB017	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Dee SAC, as water	The CNPA agree with the recommendations.	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site H1.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		supplying new development may be sourced by abstraction from the Dee, and the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs through increased human activity causing disturbance		
	Blair Atholl, PKC004	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Tay SAC (eg from development activities affecting water quality or from human activity causing disturbance of otter). The potential for impact on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a. Otter are also a European Protected Species, so the potential for adverse impacts on them as a protected species should also be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Blair Atholl, PKC006	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		<p>is changed to '-'. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Tay SAC (eg from development activities affecting water quality or from human activity causing disturbance of otter). The potential for impact on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.</p> <p>Otter are also a European Protected Species, so the potential for adverse impacts on them as a protected species should also be recognised under objective 6a.</p> <p>Consideration of the potential impacts on the Glen Tilt Woods SSSI is also necessary.</p>	<p>response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.</p>	
	Boat of Garten, THC058	<p>We disagree with the '-' scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to '-'. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie SPAs, through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie if economic development gives rise to increased human activity</p>	<p>The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However,</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		in the wider area (eg a bike hire shop), both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs	should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Boat of Garten, THC074 and THC075	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’ at least, if not ‘- -’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Braemar, AB002	While we agree that SEA objective 6a scores “- -”, the assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on Morrone Birkwood SAC (consideration is required of potential impacts caused	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		by changes in hydrology impacting on habitats) or the River Dee SAC (there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC so pollution may affect water quality, in addition to water supplying new development potentially being sourced by abstraction from the Dee), or the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs through increased human activity causing disturbance.. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Braemar, AB003	While we agree that SEA objective 6a scores “- -“, the assessment does not directly refer to the potential for likely significant effects on Morrone Birkwood SAC (consideration is required of potential impacts caused by changes in hydrology impacting on habitats) or the River Dee SAC (there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC so pollution may affect water quality, in addition to water supplying new development	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		potentially being sourced by abstraction from the Dee), or the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs through increased human activity causing disturbance. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	take this information into account.	
	Braemar, AB004 and AB005	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the River Dee SAC (there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC so pollution may affect water quality, in addition to water supplying new development potentially being sourced by abstraction from the Dee). AB005 also needs to recognise the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs through increased human activity causing disturbance. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Braemar, AB006 and AB007	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on Morrone Birkwood SAC (consideration is required of potential impacts caused by changes in hydrology impacting on habitats) or the River Dee SAC (there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC so pollution may affect water quality, in addition to water supplying new development potentially being sourced by abstraction from the Dee), or the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs (through increased human activity causing disturbance). Consideration of the potential impacts on the Morrone Birkwood SSSI is also necessary. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Braemar, AB009	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the River Dee SAC (there appears to be watercourse	The CNPA agree with the recommendations relating to the River Dee SAC. The comments	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site H4.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		connectivity to the SAC so pollution may affect water quality, in addition to water supplying new development potentially being sourced by abstraction from the Dee). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	relating to water abstraction are however not site specific.	
	Braemar, AB021	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the River Dee SAC if the car park is surfaced with material unable to withstand flood events, which could result in fine particle pollution in run-off or exacerbate flood events. The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Braemar, AB022 and AB024	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the River Dee SAC (from development activities affecting water	The CNPA agree with the recommendations with reference to River Dee SAC and water quality.	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site H5.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		quality, in addition to water supplying new development potentially being sourced by abstraction from the Dee), or the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs through increased human activity causing disturbance. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	<p>The comment on water abstraction is not a site specific effect.</p> <p>AB024 is not proposed for allocation and therefore no changes need in that regard.</p>	
	Carrbridge, H1/THC033, H2/THC034, THC057, THC066 - 069	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests, particularly Kinveachy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). Particular consideration is required as to how the A9 dualling will affect access opportunities to/from Carrbridge into Kinveachy forest in particular. The potential for	<p>The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a, and consideration given as to whether the pre-mitigation impacts would be more appropriately scored as ‘- - ‘.		
	Coylumbridge, THC027	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs), or the River Spey SAC (from development activity as the River Druie, part of the SAC, is in close proximity to the site). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a, and consideration given as to whether the pre-mitigation impacts would be more appropriately scored as ‘- - ‘.	<p>The effects described within this comment relating to capercaillie are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Cromdale, THC018 - 020	The assessments do not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	<p>The effects described within this comment relating to capercaillie are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>The sites are also not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary.</p>	No change to the SEA.
	Cromdale, THC021	We disagree with the “?” scoring for objective 6a. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the River Spey SAC (from development activity due to potential connectivity with the Burn of Cromdale) and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie	<p>The effects described within this comment relating to capercaillie are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>The sites are also not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary.</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a, and consideration given as to whether the pre-mitigation impacts would be more appropriately scored as ‘-’.		
	Dalwhinnie, THC015	We disagree with the ‘-’ scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC caused by exacerbating flood risk (identified under objectives 3a and b), as the River Truim, part of the River Spey SAC, is in close proximity to the SAC. The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Dalwhinnie, THC056	While we agree that SEA objective 6a has a pre-mitigation score of ‘-’, the assessment does not mention the River Spey SAC. The SAC is connected to the site via	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		watercourses running into the River Truim, part of the River Spey SAC. The impacts identified under objectives 3a and 3b have the potential to cause likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of SAC. The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Dinnet, AB011, AB012, AB013, AB016	The assessment does not mention the River Dee SAC. Water supplying new development may be sourced by abstraction from the Dee, which has the potential to cause likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the SAC. In addition, there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC (AB011) / close proximity to the SAC (AB012, AB013), so sedimentation from construction activities will require consideration. For AB013 and AB016, the assessment also does not consider the potential for likely significant effects on capercaillie of the Deeside SPAs (through increased	<p>The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		human activity causing disturbance). The potential for impact on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Dinnet, AB015	The assessment does not mention the River Dee SAC. Water supplying new development may be sourced by abstraction from the Dee, which has the potential to cause likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the SAC. The Muir of Dinnet SSSI also adjoins the site. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	<p>The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.
	Dalnain Bridge, THC032, THC041, THC042 and THC070	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the River Spey SAC (from sedimentation from construction activities entering the water due to proximity) and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs (through increased recreation disturbance to	The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a	Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.	
	Grantown on Spey, THC028, THC038, THC039, THC040, THC048, THC055, THC064	The assessments do not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests, particularly Anagach Woods SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a, and consideration given as to whether the pre-mitigation impacts would be more appropriately scored as ‘- - ‘.	<p>The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
	Grantown on Spey, THC028, THC038, THC039 and THC040	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the River Spey SAC (from sedimentation from construction activities entering the water due to proximity). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a	<p>The effects described within this comment are non-site specific i.e. they apply to any proposals located within the settlement, or indeed, outside of the settlement.</p> <p>Since they relate to effects on off-site European sites it is considered that they are addressed more appropriately through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p>	No change to the SEA.
	Kingussie, THC053	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC, Insh Marshes SAC, River Spey - Insh Marshes SPA (eg from development activities affecting water quality) as there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC. The River Spey – Insh Marshes SSSI and Ramsar site cover much of the same area and so also appear to be connected to	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		the allocation site. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Laggan, THC065	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (from development activity as the site adjoins the River Mashie, part of the SAC, and appears to have watercourse connectivity with the SAC). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA agrees with the comment.	Take account of these factors in the assessment of site H1.
	Lynchat, THC029	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC, Insh Marshes SAC and the River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA, from development activity affecting water quality and/or flood risk (as identified under	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process,	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		objectives 3a and 3b). The River Spey is in close proximity to the site and there appears to be connectivity to the SACs and SPA via drains and an unnamed watercourse to the east of the site. The River Spey - Insh Marshes SSSI and Ramsar site cover much of the same area as the SACs and SPA. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Nethy Bridge, THC002, THC003	The assessments do not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (from development activity and/or flood risk (as identified under objectives 3a and 3b) as the sites adjoin the River Nethy (a tributary and part of the SAC) with THC002 also appearing to have watercourse connectivity with the SAC), and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs (through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and	The CNPA agrees with the comment. However, the CNPA do not agree that these sites are likely to have a negative effect on the qualifying features of SAC in which capercaillie are a qualifying species.	Take account of factors relating to the river Spey SAC in the assessment of site H1 and H2.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Nethy Bridge, THC005, HI/THC035	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests, particularly Abernethy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Nethy Bridge, THC017	The assessments do not mention the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of River Spey SAC (from development activity as the site is in close proximity to	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		the Allt Mor, a tributary and part of the SAC, and from increased human activity (particularly dog walking) causing disturbance to otter), and Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs (through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a. Otter are also a European Protected Species (EPS), so their EPS status also needs consideration as part of the assessment for objective 6a.	Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Nethy Bridge, THC036	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests, particularly Abernethy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		cumulatively with other developments affecting Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs) or the Cairngorms SAC. Abernethy Forest SSSI and Abernethy NNR covers much of the same area as the SPA. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Nethy Bridge, THC037	While we agree with the scoring of ‘-’ due to the inclusion of land within the Abernethy National Nature Reserve (NNR) within the proposed allocation, the assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on Badenoch and Strathspey SPAs with capercaillie as qualifying interests, particularly Abernethy Forest SPA (eg through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs) or the Cairngorms SAC. Abernethy Forest	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		SSSI and Abernethy NNR covers much of the same area as the SPA. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Nethy Bridge, THC052	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (from development activity as there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC, and/or flood risk as identified under objectives 3a and 3b), or Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs, particularly Abernethy Forest SPA (through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs, if economic development generates increased human activity in the wider area, eg bike hire shop). The potential for impacts on these	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Nethy Bridge, THC060	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on the River Spey SAC (from development activity as the site is in close proximity to the River Nethy, a tributary and part of the River Spey SAC) or Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs, particularly Abernethy Forest SPA (through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Nethy Bridge, THC063	The assessment does not mention the potential for a likely significant effect on the River Spey SAC (from development activity as the site adjoins the River Nethy, a tributary	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		and part of the SAC, and appears to have watercourse connectivity with the SAC) or Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs, particularly Abernethy Forest SPA (through increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Newtonmore, THC022	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (from flood risk as identified under objective 3a and b and/or development activities affecting water quality as the site is in close proximity to the River Calder, a tributary and part of the SAC). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		should be recognised under objective 6a.		
	Newtonmore, THC051	We disagree with the “?” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the proximity to the River Calder, part of the River Spey SAC, as well as part of the Insh Marshes SAC, River Spey - Insh Marshes SPA. There is potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of these protected areas from development exacerbating flood risk (as identified under objective 3a and b) and/or development activities affecting waterquality. The River Spey – Insh Marshes SSSI and Ramsar site are also in close proximity. The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Outwith, AB001 (Bridge of Gairn)	We disagree with the “?” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		effects on the qualifying interests of the River Dee SAC (from development activity, as it is in close proximity to the River Gairn, part of the SAC). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Outwith, PKC008, PKC009 and PKC010 (Glenshee)	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Tay SAC (from development activity, as a watercourse appears to run through the site into the Shee Water, part of the SAC). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.
	Outwith, THC025 (Inverdrue and Coylumbridge)	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (from development activity, as a watercourse in close proximity to the site runs into the River Druie, part of the SAC). Housing and economic development would need to be subject to assessment due to the potential for likely significant effects on Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs (from increased recreation disturbance to capercaillie due to the increase in human population from housing and/or if economic development (such as a bike hire shop) generates increased human activity in the wider area, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Outwith, THC026 (Inverdruie and Coylumbridge)	The assessment does not mention the potential for likely significant effects on Badenoch and Strathspey capercaillie SPAs (from increased	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be	No change to the SEA.

Consultation Authority	Section of Environmental Report	Comment	Response of CNPA	Change to SEA
		recreation disturbance to capercaillie if economic development (such as a bike hire shop) generates increased human activity in the wider area, both alone and cumulatively with other developments affecting capercaillie SPAs). The potential for impacts on these areas protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	
	Outwith, THC050 (Lynwilg)	We disagree with the “” scoring for objective 6a and recommend that it is changed to ‘-’. This is because of the potential for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the River Spey SAC (from development activity, as it is in close proximity to the Allt na Criche, part of the River Spey SAC, and/or from water quality and quantity impacts from abstraction and/or discharge, if proposed). The potential for impacts on this area protected for nature conservation should be recognised under objective 6a.	The CNPA acknowledges and agrees with this consultation response. The site is however not preferred and will not be included within the Proposed Plan. No amendments to the Environmental Report are therefore necessary. However, should the site be argued for during the examination process, then the proposer will need to take this information into account.	No change to the SEA.

Appendix 5: SEA Assessment Key

Table 45 SEA Assessment Key.

Significance of Effect		Scale and Permanence of Effect	
Plan element would have a major positive effect in its current form as it would resolve an existing issue or maximise opportunities. SIGNIFICANT.	++	Local (e.g. settlement or community council level)	L
Plan element would have a minor positive effect.	+	Regional (e.g. National Park or neighbouring LA level)	R
Effect of plan element is uncertain .	?	National (i.e. Scotland)	N
Plan element would have no predicted effects or no site specific effects.	□	International (i.e. trans-national boundary effects)	I
Plan element would have a minor adverse effect.	-	Permanent	P
The plan element would have a major adverse effect as it would create significant new problems or substantially exacerbate existing problems. Consider exclusion of option. SIGNIFICANT.	--	Temporary	T

Appendix 6: Assessment of Proposed Plan Vision, Strategy and Policies**SEA Issue / Topic**

Climatic Factors

SEA Objective(s):

Ia Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases with particular focus on emissions from buildings, transport, energy generation and industry (especially CO₂).
- Encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency.
- Encourage investment in cleaner technologies.
- Support investment in suitable renewable energy sources.
- Decouple increase in GDP and greenhouse gas emissions
- Encourage the appropriate local sourcing of materials, resources and food produce.

Significant Interrelationships

Air, water, soil, material assets, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to reducing GHG emissions is the link to nature and people thriving together. Such an approach requires the management of the National Park to take on principles that limit negative impacts on the environment and encourage positive change; these may have either direct or indirect positive benefits in meeting the SEA Objective. For example, promoting woodland expansion and the better management of moorland both play a strong role in the storage and sequestration of carbon.	I	P	+	+	+	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. Following this strategy should reduce the need to travel to access work and services and encourage alternative means of transport. The policy also supports the improvement of an	I	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport.						
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. Following this strategy should reduce the need to travel to access work and services and encourage alternative means of transport. The policy also supports the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. However, given that the policy will facilitate a growth in households and is likely to facilitate a growth in population, which does have an environmental impact with regards to climate change, the overall effect is likely to be a minor negative one.	I	P	-	-	-	The policy partially mitigates itself by supporting the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. Furthermore, Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, including encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy technologies into development, requiring a high standard of design and the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network. The overall policy approach is supported by the Cairngorms NPPP, particular Policy 3.2.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
I.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The policy would only allow a small amount of development in the smallest settlements and groups of houses, and would only result in a very minor increase in the number of people travelling to access work and services. The need to travel will be partially offset by the principle of Intermediate and Rural Settlements, which should provide these groups with much of their daily facilities, and negate the need for people to travel further for these services. Neutral effects have therefore been predicted for this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	The policy would only allow a small amount of development outwith settlements, and would only result in a very minor increase in the number of people travelling to access work and services. The need to travel will be partially offset by the principle of Intermediate and Rural Settlements, which should provide these groups with much of their daily facilities, and negate the need for people to travel further for these services. Neutral effects have therefore been predicted for this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	Smaller houses are more energy efficient and have a smaller environmental impact than larger ones, therefore the policy is likely to result in minor positive effects.	I	P	+	+	+	
1.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
1.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy 1.1.
1.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	The policy supports the SEA Objective by directing development to the most suitable locations and by resisting the loss of retail	I	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	provision, reducing the need for people to travel elsewhere for their retail needs.						
2.2 Tourist accommodation	Developing new tourist accommodation is likely to result in increased journeys by private transport. The overall effects of the policy are uncertain as they are entirely dependent on the location, scale and nature of the development.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy I.I.
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	Developing new tourism and leisure developments is likely to result in increased journeys by private transport. The overall effects of the policy are uncertain as they are entirely dependent on the location, scale and nature of the development.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy I.I.
2.4 Other economic development	Developing new tourist accommodation is likely to result in increased journeys by private transport. The overall effects of the policy are uncertain as they are entirely dependent on the location, scale and nature of the development.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy I.I.
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The option promotes a high standard of design, energy efficiency, sustainably sourced materials and construction in new development and promotes active travel, the use for public	I	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	transport and aims to reduce the reliance on private motorised transport.						
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help maximise opportunities to reduce the need to travel by private motor vehicle, promote walking and cycling and ensure that renewable energy resources are incorporated into developments.	I	P	++	++	++	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The option promotes a high standard of design, energy efficiency, sustainably sourced materials and construction in new development and promotes active travel, the use for public transport and aims to reduce the reliance on private motorised transport.	I	P	++	++	++	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	There are opportunities for carbon sequestration through the protection and enhancement of woodlands.	I	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	There are opportunities for carbon sequestration through the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.	I	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	There are opportunities for carbon sequestration through the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.	I	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	The policy directs the development of renewable energy sources within the county. The initial construction of the units may have a minor negative effect on greenhouse gas emissions; however, this will be offset against in the medium and long term by the greenhouse gas emissions saved.	I	P	+	++	++	
7.2 Hydropower	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of Hydropower permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
7.3 Wind energy	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of wind energy permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
7.4 Biomass	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of biomass facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
7.5 Energy from waste	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of energy from waste facilities	I	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.						
7.6 Heat networks	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of heat networks permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.6 Minerals	The effect of the policy will be dependent on the location of the extraction site and the transportation of the resource. New development will inevitably lead to an increase in greenhouse gasses and will therefore have an overall negative affect on the SEA Objective.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for policy 1.1.
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	Protecting carbon rich soils prevents the release of climate change causing greenhouse gas emissions. However, development on such	I	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	soils is unlikely to be significant in the first place.						
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary and Conclusions:

The scale of the effects is considered to be international, with the Plan's impact on GHG emissions contributing to wider climatic changes.

The main potential negative impacts of the Plan are those associated with the predicted growth of housing and the economy, which is predicted to result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

The assessment also recognises the ability of the CNPA and its partners to mitigate negative effects through the implementation of mitigation measures such as better public transport provision and improved cycling and walking networks. Indeed these measures are already built into the Plan's outcomes and policies.

Since the negative effects arise from different sources, cumulative, in-combination and synergistic effects are considered possible, but not to a great enough degree as to become significant.

SEA Issue / Topic

Climatic Factors

SEA Objective(s):

Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Ensure that new development is appropriately located, having considered the potential effects of future climate conditions.
- Ensure infrastructure and buildings are designed to cope with future climate conditions.
- Encourage climate change adaptation through green infrastructure.
- Encourage existing infrastructure and buildings to adapt to cope with future climate conditions.

Significant Interrelationships

Water, soil, landscape and cultural heritage, biodiversity, fauna and flora, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to increasing resilience to climate change is the link to nature and people thriving together. Landscape scale habitat management and natural flood management techniques, such as woodland expansion and river restoration offer means of creating rich habitats that provide important ecosystem services with regard to climate change adaptation. Therefore it may be argued that the vision plays a direct role in meeting the SEA objective.	R	P	+	+	+	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	Encouraging sustainable patterns of development will help ensure that it considers the potential effects of future climate conditions, deliver infrastructure and buildings are designed to cope with future climate conditions and encourage existing infrastructure and buildings to adapt to cope with future climate conditions.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policies							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
I.1 Housing delivery in settlements	Encouraging sustainable patterns of development will help ensure that it considers the potential effects of future climate conditions, deliver infrastructure and buildings are designed to cope with future climate conditions and encourage existing infrastructure and buildings to adapt to cope with future climate conditions.	R	P	+	+	+	
I.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	+	+	+	
I.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	The policy provides the opportunity to make alterations that could be designed to address the need to adapt in the face of climate change.	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.4 Other economic development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The option promotes a high standard of design, energy efficiency, sustainably sourced materials and construction in new development.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	maximise opportunities to incorporate adaptive features, for example, SuDS.						
3.3 Sustainable Design	The option promotes a high standard of design, energy efficiency, sustainably sourced materials and construction in new development.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	Protecting woodland will support the SEA Objective as trees and woodlands play an important role in building resilience to climate change, for example by slowing throughflow and reducing surface water run-off.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	The policy will also help species adapt to climate change by retaining habitat and, where needed, providing new habitat.	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The policy actively supports the SEA Objective by helping to reduce the National Park's ecological footprint. The retention and creation of new woodland habitats can play a role in slowing throughflow and reducing surface water-run-off. The policy will also help species adapt to climate change by retaining habitat and, where needed, providing new habitat.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	The policy actively supports the SEA Objective by helping to reduce the National Park's ecological footprint. The retention and creation of new woodland habitats can play a role in slowing throughflow and reducing surface water-run-off. The policy will also help species adapt to climate change by retaining habitat and, where needed, providing new habitat.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Communications Equipment							
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	The policy's requirement that development minimise the use of treated and abstracted water supports the SEA Objective.	R	P	+	+	+	
10.2 Flooding	The policy's requirement that development take into account the impacts of climate change supports the SEA Objective.	R	P	+	+	+	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.6 Minerals	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary and Conclusions:

Potential effects are considered to be regional in scale on the basis that the implementation of adaptation measures mostly benefits the location they are developed in.

The only negative effect has been identified against Policy I.I.I. This is however a site based issue and an extremely minor one at that. It is not considered to have any bearing on the overall sustainability of the Plan. It is also important to note that the development of these sites in question is unlikely within the Plan period and therefore it is probable that no negative effects occur at all. □

A considerable number of options are considered to have no predicted effects. This is due to the very specific nature of many of the Proposed Plan policies, while others have no relevance to climate adaptation.

The greatest positive effects therefore reflect the plan's approach to managing and reducing the effects of flood risk.

SEA Issue / Topic

Air

SEA Objective(s):

2 Protect and enhance air quality

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Reduce levels of the UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO₂, PM₁₀, SO₂).
- Reduce levels of ground-level ozone (O₃).
- Reduce the need for travel, through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public infrastructure.
- Reduce negative effects of power generation, industry and transport on local air quality.
- Contribute towards reducing levels of stratospheric ozone depletions.
- Encourage appropriate cleaner technology for power generation, industry and transport.
- Reduce levels of acid deposition.
- Reduce levels of ammonia deposition.

Significant Interrelationships

Water, soil biodiversity, fauna and flora, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to protecting and enhancing air quality is the link to nature and people thriving together. For example, the protection and expansion of woodlands will have some indirect positive effects on air quality.	L	P	+	+	+	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. Following this strategy should reduce the need to travel to access work and services and encourage alternative means of transport. The policy also supports the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport.	L	P	+	+	+	
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. Following this strategy should reduce the need to travel to access work and services and encourage alternative means of transport. The policy also supports the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. However, given that the policy will facilitate a growth in households and is likely to facilitate a growth in population, which does have an environmental impact with regards to air quality do to an increase in car journeys, the overall effect is likely to be a minor negative one.	L	P	-	-	-	The policy partially mitigates itself by supporting the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. Furthermore, Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, including encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy technologies into development, requiring a high standard of design and the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network. The overall policy approach is supported by the Cairngorms NPPP, particular Policy 3.2.
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The policy would only allow a small amount of development in the smallest settlements and groups of houses, and would only result in a very minor increase in the number of people travelling to access work and services. The	L	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	need to travel will be partially offset by the principle of Intermediate and Rural Settlements, which should provide these groups with much of their daily facilities, and negate the need for people to travel further for these services. Neutral effects have therefore been predicted for this policy.						
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	The policy would only allow a small amount of development outwith settlements, and would only result in a very minor increase in the number of people travelling to access work and services. The need to travel will be partially offset by the principle of Intermediate and Rural Settlements, which should provide these groups with much of their daily facilities, and negate the need for people to travel further for these services. Neutral effects have therefore been predicted for this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
I.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	L	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy 1.1.
1.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	The policy supports the SEA Objective by directing development to the most suitable locations and by resisting the loss of retail provision, reducing the need for people to travel elsewhere for their retail needs.	L	P	+	+	+	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	Developing new tourist accommodation is likely to result in increased journeys by private transport. The overall effects of the policy are uncertain as they are entirely dependent on the location, scale and nature of the development.	L	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy 1.1.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	Developing new tourism and leisure developments is likely to result in increased journeys by private transport. The overall effects of the policy are uncertain as they are entirely dependent on the location, scale and nature of the development.	L	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy I.I.
2.4 Other economic development	Developing new tourist accommodation is likely to result in increased journeys by private transport. The overall effects of the policy are uncertain as they are entirely dependent on the location, scale and nature of the development.	L	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for policy I.I.
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The option aims to make development easy to move around and beyond thereby promoting active travel and public transport provision and reduce the reliance on private motorised transport.	L	P	+	+	+	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help maximise opportunities to reduce the need to travel by private motor vehicle, promote walking and cycling.	L	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The option aims to make development easy to move around and beyond thereby promoting active travel and public transport provision and reduce the reliance on private motorised transport.	L	P	+	+	+	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	The protection of woodlands will have indirect positive effects on air quality.	L	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The protection of biodiversity will have indirect positive effects on air quality.	L	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	The protection of biodiversity will have indirect positive effects on air quality.	L	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.6 Minerals	Mineral extraction is likely to lead to the creation of dust, which will have a negative effect on air quality within the locality of the sites. Additionally, the transportation of aggregates requires the use of large vehicles, the emissions from which also have an effect on air quality.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for policy I.1.
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy II: Developer Obligations							
Policy II: Developer Obligations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	L	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary and Conclusions:

Mapping of nitrate and particulate levels indicates that emissions from motor vehicles are greatest close to roads. The effects identified in this assessment are considered to be local in scale as they are unlikely to be problematic across the wider area.

The main potential negative impacts of the Plan on the air quality are those associated with the predicted growth of housing and the economy of the National Park.

The effects are likely to vary across the National Park, with the greatest potential for negative effects arising in Badenoch and Strathspey, where the greatest level of growth is predicted to occur. Indeed policy decisions, notably the dualling of the A9 and the development of a new settlement at An Camas Mòr, are likely to result in cumulative and in-combination effects occurring.

It is not however considered that these effects will become significant since all air quality objectives are currently being within the National Park. Furthermore, the SEA on the A9 Dualling Strategy concludes that the effects of the road's upgrade will be to reduce ambient roadside carbon, NOx and particulate levels through resultant improved traffic flows.

The assessment also recognises the ability of the CNPA and its partners to mitigate many of the negative effects through the implementation of mitigation measures such as better public transport provision. Indeed these measures are already built into the Plan's outcomes and options.

SEA Issue / Topic

Water

SEA Objective(s):

3a Reduce flood risk

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Safeguard the functional floodplain.
- Encourage the restoration of a natural flood regime.
- Promote land uses and habitat changes that will help to decrease run-off, stabilise slopes, and attenuate flows.
- Ensure new development is not located in areas of high or medium flood risk.
- Ensure new development does not increase flood risk on site or elsewhere.
- Increase the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in both new and refurbished developments.
- Avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces.
- Reduce reliance on flood mitigation and hard engineered solutions.
- Increase provision to manage stormwater.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, soil, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to reducing flood risk is the link to nature and people thriving together. Landscape scale habitat management and other natural flood management techniques, such as woodland expansion and river restoration offer means of creating rich habitats while also reducing flood risk. Therefore it may be argued that the vision plays a strong and direct role in meeting the SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. Some of the settlements in the current strategy, including Ballater in particular, have recently experienced severe flood events. However, the choice of sites in the LDP and national planning policy effectively prevent future development from increasing flood risk and therefore it is not considered that the	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	policy is likely to have an effect on the SEA objective						
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. Some of the settlements in the current strategy, including Ballater in particular, have recently experienced severe flood events. However, the choice of sites in the LDP and national planning policy effectively prevent future development from increasing flood risk and therefore it is not considered that the policy is likely to have an effect on the SEA objective	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	By providing for limited growth in rural groups it is likely that development will to some extent alter water flow patterns. However, the limited scale of developments that will be allowed to take place combined with the appropriate location of development will minimise these	R	P	☐	☐	☐	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	effects. Overall the effects of the policy are likely to be minimal.						
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	By providing for limited growth outwith settlements it is likely that development will to some extent alter water flow patterns. However, the limited scale of developments that will be allowed to take place combined with the appropriate location of development will minimise these effects. Overall the effects of the policy are likely to be minimal.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
and travelling show people							
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.4 Other economic development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The option promotes a high standard of design in the construction in new development. This should include the implementation of SuDS schemes.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help maximise opportunities to incorporate adaptive features, that manage water flows and reduce flood risk, for example, SuDS.	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The option promotes a high standard of design in the construction in new development. This should include the implementation of SuDS schemes.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	Protecting woodland will support the SEA Objective as trees and woodlands play an important role in building resilience to climate change, for example by slowing throughflow and reducing surface water run-off.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The policy actively supports the SEA Objective because the retention and creation of new	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	woodland habitats can play a role in slowing throughflow and reducing surface water-run-off.						
4.6 All development	The policy actively supports the SEA Objective because the retention and creation of new woodland habitats can play a role in slowing throughflow and reducing surface water-run-off.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	The creation of hydroelectric schemes can have a positive benefit on flood risk by allowing for the control and management of abnormal flows.	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
7.2 Hydropower	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of Hydropower permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.3 Wind energy	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of wind energy permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4 Biomass	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of biomass facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of energy from waste facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of heat networks permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.2 Flooding	The policy actively supports the aims of the SEA Objective.	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.6 Minerals	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	Healthy carbon rich soils and the vegetation they support reduce surface water run-off. Therefore protecting them will contribute to reducing flood risk.	R	P	+	+	+	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Summary and Conclusions:

The Cairngorms National Park encompasses the headwaters of three of Scotland's major rivers as well as many smaller ones. Actions taken in the upper part of these catchments may be felt downstream and therefore the scale of the identified effect is considered to be regional.

The only negative effect has been identified against Policy 1.11. This is however a site based issue and an extremely minor one at that. It is not considered to have any bearing on the overall sustainability of the Plan. It is also important to note that the development of these sites in question is unlikely within the Plan period and therefore it is probable that no negative effects occur at all.

Negative effects are only identified against one of the reasonable alternatives.

Overall it is thought that the effects of the Plan are likely to be positive, with the overarching impact of Main Issue 9 impacting on all aspects of plan implementation.

SEA Issue / Topic

Water

SEA Objective(s):

3b Maintain and improve the quality of water resources

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Ensure the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water is maintained or improved.
- Maintain and improve the ability of river catchments to store water.
- Conserve public water supply.
- Reduce demand for water and minimise unnecessary water use.
- Reduce diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas.
- Limit land use related pollution (particularly nitrates) on water resources.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, soil, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to maintaining and improving water quality is the link to nature and people thriving together. By taking this approach the LDP must ensure that development and approaches to landscape management do not have a negative effect on the water quality of waterbodies within and flowing from the National Park.	N	P	+	+	+	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. The level of growth, particularly in the Aviemore area, is likely to place pressure on the local water supply, with the Aviemore water treatment works only having capacity for a further 966 housing units.	N	P	-	-	-	Development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
							subject to some risk. These site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary. Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5.
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. The level of growth, particularly in the Aviemore area, is likely to place pressure on the local water supply, with the Aviemore water treatment works only having capacity for a further 966 housing units. Negative effects may also arise from run-off as new impermeable surfaces are created. There may be a particular risk at the time of construction.						
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
1.3 Other housing in the countryside	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
1.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
1.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
1.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
1.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
2.4 Other economic development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The option promotes a high standard of design in the construction in new development. This should include the implementation of SuDS schemes which should help increase the ability	N	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	of river catchments to store water, reduce diffuse pollution and improve water quality.						
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help maximise opportunities to incorporate features that manage water flows. This includes the implementation of SuDS schemes.	N	P	+	+	+	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The option promotes a high standard of design in the construction in new development. This includes the implementation of SuDS schemes which should help increase the ability of river catchments to store water, reduce diffuse pollution and improve water quality.	N	P	+	+	+	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
4.3 Woodlands	The protection of woodlands will have indirect positive effects on water quality and quantity.	N	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The protection of biodiversity will have indirect positive effects on water quality and quantity.	N	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	The protection of biodiversity will have indirect positive effects on water quality and quantity.	N	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	The policy actively supports the aims of the SEA Objective.	N	P	++	++	++	
10.2 Flooding	The policy ensures that development does not increase the risk of flooding, limiting the ability if pollutants to enter the water system.	N	P	+	+	+	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.6 Minerals	The development of minerals sites may have some adverse effects on water quality if water used for mining processes were to leak into the soil. Quarrying can involve dewatering and quarry process can consume water, which could put strain on the local water supply. However, the remediation of old quarries could include the creation of wetlands and locations for storing water.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	Healthy carbon rich soils and the vegetation they support reduce surface water run-off and therefore reduces pollutants entering the water system by this means.	N	P	+	+	+	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	Developer obligations could include the requirement to upgrade water and waste water facilities.	N	P	+	+	+	

Summary and Conclusions:

The Cairngorms National Park encompasses the headwaters of three of Scotland's major rivers as well as many smaller ones. Actions taken in the upper part of these catchments may be felt downstream and therefore the scale of the identified effect is considered to be regional.

Negative effects are predicted against policies that deal with economic and housing development. These largely relate to potential effects from surface-water pollutants, particularly during the construction phase and the pressure developments might place on water and waste treatment infrastructure, which in some areas does not have enough capacity to meet projected growth. It is expected however that this infrastructure be upgraded if development is to take place; therefore the overall effect of the plan are likely to be neutral or positive.

SEA Issue / Topic

Soil

SEA Objective(s):

4 Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Maintain or improve the productive capacity of soils.
- Maintain or improve the ability of farmland in the Park to sustainably produce high quality local and seasonal food.
- Avoid increased diffuse pollution, particularly SO₂ and NO₂ emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture and other economic activities.
- Protect and enhance soil quantity (including non-chemical soil functions and processes such as permeability) and quantity, especially of carbon rich soils.
- Maintain, restore or improve the carbon storage capacity of peat and soils.
- Minimise carbon emissions from land use (e.g. muirburn).
- Avoid and reduce contamination of soils.
- Promote the regeneration and redevelopment of brownfield and contaminated land.
- Take account of soil function.
- Minimise soil erosion.
- Minimise soil sealing.
- Minimise soil compaction.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, water, material assents, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to soil quality is the link to nature and people thriving together. By taking this approach the LDP must ensure that development and approach hes to landscape management do not have a negative impact on soils, including those with a carbon rich content.	R	P	+	+	+	
Spatial Strategy							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Spatial Strategy	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. While allocated sites in these settlements offer the ability to demand densities of development that maximise the use of land and limit the loss of soil, most sites are on greenfield land. Furthermore, An Camas Mòr is identified as an entirely new settlement on an entirely greenfield site and over the long term there is likely to be the loss of a considerable area of soil. It is important to note however that the mapping of agricultural soils indicates there are no areas of prime agricultural land in these areas, while mapping of carbon rich soils indicate that there are no areas of peat. The overall effect of the policy is therefore likely to be minor in scale.	R	P	-	-	-	While a minor negative effect has been identified, the strategy aims to minimise the loss of soil by directing development to the most sustainable locations and encouraging the coalescence of uses. Sites are also scaled so that their use is maximised through the requirement to deliver higher densities than has been the historic norm. Policies 3, 4 and 10 also have elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective.
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
I.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. While allocated sites in these settlements offer the ability to demand densities of development that maximise the use of land and limit the loss of soil, most sites are on greenfield land. Furthermore, An Camas Mòr is identified as an entirely new settlement on an entirely greenfield site and over the long term there is likely to be the loss of a considerable area of soil. It is important to note however that the mapping of agricultural soils indicates there are no areas of prime agricultural land in these areas, while mapping of carbon rich soils indicate that there are no areas of peat. The overall effect of the policy is therefore likely to be minor in scale.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
I.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	With little to no brownfield land and few opportunities for dense developments (due to the impact this would have on the character of these groups), the impact on soil will be greater than that in the larger settlements. However, the low level of development that is likely to	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	occur in these locations limits the effect on the SEA Objective.						
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	With little to no brownfield land and few opportunities for dense developments (due to the impact this would have on the character of these groups), the impact on soil will be greater than that in the larger settlements. However, the low level of development that is likely to occur in these locations limits the effect on the SEA Objective.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	Encouraging the construction of smaller houses, which have a smaller footprint, will reduce the area of soil lost, compacted or sealed and therefore the policy is likely to result in minor positive effects.	R	P	+	+	+	
I.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.2 Tourist accommodation	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.4 Other economic development	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The policy promotes high standards of sustainable design and the efficient use of land and materials in construction. The protection of high quality and carbon rich soils should therefore form part of this consideration.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help promote high standards of sustainable design and the efficient use of land and materials in construction. The protection of high quality and carbon rich soils should therefore form part of this consideration.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The policy promotes high standards of sustainable design and the efficient use of land and materials in construction. The protection of high quality and carbon rich soils should therefore form part of this consideration.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
4.3 Woodlands	The protection of woodlands will have indirect positive effects on soil quality and quantity	R	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The protection of biodiversity will have indirect positive effects on soil quality and quantity	R	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	The protection of biodiversity will have indirect positive effects on soil quality and quantity	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	Having a presumption against hill track creation should help protect soils. Owing to the limited nature of the development relative to the size of the National Park, this effect is considered to be a minor one.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There may be some loss of soil through the development of renewable energy sources. For example, in the case of wind turbines, the extent of the damage will also be considerably greater than the immediate footprint of the turbines. However, the exact effects of this policy are uncertain as they are dependent on the size, location and nature of any one development.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
7.2 Hydropower	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of Hydropower permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.3 Wind energy	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of wind energy permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
7.4 Biomass	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of biomass facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of energy from waste facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of heat networks permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.6 Minerals	The nature of mineral extraction will inevitably lead to some form of degradation. However, most extraction will take place in existing	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	quarries and the limited in scale will be required.						
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	The policy actively supports the SEA Objective, which aims to minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality	R	P	++	++	++	
10.8 Contaminated land	The Policy seeks to encourages the regeneration of contaminated land.	R	P	++	++	++	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	

Summary and Conclusions:

The effect of land use and land management decisions on soils may range from local to international in scale depending on the soils affected and the scale of the effects. While important soils, such as those with a high carbon content, have been identified within the National Park, the Plan's proposals are unlikely to impact upon them significantly. The effects identified in this assessment are therefore considered to be regional in scale.

Negative effects associated with economic growth and housing development have been identified, because the majority of this is proposed on green fields sites, previously developed land being relatively scarce within the National Park. Where available, previously developed land has been prioritised over greenfield sites. The effects are not considered to be significant, owing to the limited nature of the development that is likely to take place and the fact that the highest quality soils and the soils with the highest carbon content have been avoided as allocated sites. Naturally, uncertainty exists with regard of windfall sites.

SEA Issue / Topic

Material Assets

SEA Objective(s):

5 Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets.

SEA Sub-Objective

- Promote decoupling of resource use from economic prosperity.
- Encourage sustainable use of natural resources e.g. water, timber, aggregates.
- Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials.
- Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Value, conserve and enhance geodiversity.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	While not explicitly stated, the crucial aspect of the Vision with regard to the sustainable use of material assets is the link to nature and people thriving together. By taking this approach the LDP must ensure that development and approaches to landscape management take a sustainable approach to such assets and that the resources within the National Park are not exploited without heed for other environmental and social concerns.	R	P	+	+	+	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	There are no predicted effects associated with the Strategy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
1.3 Other housing in the countryside	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	Encouraging the construction of smaller houses, which are less resource intensive and have a smaller footprint, is likely to result in minor positive effects.	R	P	+	+	+	
1.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.6 Affordable housing exception sites	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.11 Long term designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.4 Other economic development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The policy supports the SEA objective through its support for development of appropriately located and scaled renewable energy developments and promotes high standards of sustainable design and efficient use of energy and materials in construction.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can help maximise opportunities to incorporate renewable energy resources into developments.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The policy supports the SEA objective through its support for development of appropriately located and scaled renewable energy developments and promotes high standards of	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	sustainable design and efficient use of energy and materials in construction.						
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	The policy indirectly promotes the sustainable management of woodland resources.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.6 All development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	A presumption against the development of hill tracks should result in fewer resources and materials being consumed.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	By encouraging the use of renewable energy, the demand for non-renewable sources will be reduced, having a positive effect on the SEA Objective.	R	P	+	+	+	
7.2 Hydropower	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of Hydropower permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.3 Wind energy	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of wind energy permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
7.4 Biomass	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of biomass facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of energy from waste facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of heat networks permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	The Policy supports the SEA Objective's aim of encouraging the sustainable use of resources e.g. water.	R	P	+	+	+	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	The policy actively encourages the sustainable use and reuse of material assets, including the promotion of the waste hierarchy to reduce, reuse and recycle.	R	P	++	++	++	
10.5 Landfill	The policy seeks to reduce the volume of waste going to landfill.	R	P	+	+	+	
10.6 Minerals	The policy seeks to encourage the sustainable use of mineral resources within the National	R	P	+	+	+	Policy could be enhanced by encouraging the processing of

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	Park. There is also an opportunity to value, conserve and enhance geodiversity through the remediation of the site.						secondary aggregate/recycled materials: "Proposals will be supported that enable a higher proportion of secondary aggregate/recycled materials to substitute for the consumption of primary aggregates; including facilities for storing, processing and recycling construction, demolition and excavation materials on construction sites and within active mineral sites and former quarries."
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary and Conclusions:

Owing to the limited nature of the identified effects, the scale of the Plan's impact on material assets is considered to be regional.

The overall effects of the Plan are considered to be positive, with policy options supporting the development of appropriately located and scaled renewable energy developments, high standards of sustainable design, the efficient use of energy and materials in construction and sustainable land management practices.

Many policies carry no resource implications and this is reflected in the relatively high number of assessments that predict no effects.

SEA Issue / Topic

Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora

SEA Objective(s):

6a Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive wild species and habitats

SEA Sub-Objective

- Protect the integrity of European sites, proposed European sites and listed Ramsar sites, and to conserve or, where not at a favourable conservation status, enhance their interest features.
- Avoid damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and encourage their enhancement and connection.
- Conserve and enhance the viability and diversity of distinctive species and habitats and their connectivity.
- Avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases.
- Conserve, enhance and create appropriate wildlife habitats and wider biodiversity within and outwith settlements.
- Encourage innovative methods of producing biodiversity gain for both new and existing developments.
- Reduce the ecological footprint of the Cairngorms National Park.
- Enable people to access and appreciate the Cairngorms National Park's natural heritage.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assets, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	The vision’s objective to ensure that nature thrives within the National Park positively contributes to all aspects of the SEA objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. This development is to be delivered in while maintaining the integrity of designated sites, including SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites, with mitigation proposed through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal. Overall the policy’s effects are uncertain as they will depend on site specific conditions. These have been assessed individually.	I	P	?	?	?	Ecological appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on biodiversity. Where necessary, these have been included within the Settlement Information Section of the Proposed Plan and their requirements will need to be met to gain planning permission. Where necessary, the requirement for further surveys has been identified. Where no site specific requirements have been identified, requirements are set out by Policy 4, which seeks to reduce any

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
							<p>negative effects on biodiversity, while Policies 5 and 11 also have some positive synergistic effects on the SEA Objective.</p> <p>With regard to Capercaillie, the CNPA is in the process of developing a Capercaillie Framework, which it is intended the LDP support, which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bring together existing knowledge on the state of Capercaillie across the Cairngorms National Park, the combined knowledge of the pressures they face, particularly with regard to recreation and housing development; and the suite of management measures currently being deployed, using spatial mapped data where possible;

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ inform future decisions about co-ordinated deployment of management measures for Capercaillie conservation; ➤ identify what else we may need to do, where we may need further investment or resources and highlight the future agenda for management action. <p>The CNPA has published a report on Phase 1 of the Framework (2015). This takes the form of a map-based framework that helps to co-ordinate the management of the National Park with the aim of safeguarding and expanding the Capercaillie population across the area.</p> <p>Work on Phase 2 is underway and is supported by Heritage Lottery Funding. Where effects are identified from the development of sites,</p>

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
							further funding for mitigation may be levied through Policy 11. The HRA on the LDP has identified the areas where this is likely to be the case and mitigation measures have been identified included within the LDP where necessary.
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The policy focuses development in the strategic settlements of Aviemore, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore – along with a proposed new settlement at An Camas Mòr. This development is to be delivered in while maintaining the integrity of designated sites, including SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites, with mitigation proposed through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal. Overall the policy's effects are uncertain as they will depend on site specific conditions. These have been assessed individually.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	Encouraging the construction of smaller houses, which have a smaller footprint and therefore require less land to build on, means that it is likely that less habitat is lost and result in minor positive effects.	I	P	+	+	+	
I.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
2.1 Town centres	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.4 Other economic development	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can be used to ensure that sensitive areas are protected and mitigation and compensatory measures are delivered in the most beneficial way.	I	P	+	+	+	
3.3 Sustainable Design	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
4.2 National designations	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
4.3 Woodlands	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
4.4 Protected species	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
4.6 All development	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	The option may have synergistic positive effects on biodiversity.	I	P	+	+	+	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	The option may have synergistic positive effects on upland habitats and species.	I	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	The policy requires development to minimise the use of abstracted water and not result in the ecological status of waterbodies.	I	P	+	+	+	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.6 Minerals	The policy has a presumption against the development of new mineral sites, though it does allow for amendments to and extensions of existing sites. It also requires the remediation of land after sites are closed, which provides opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, and states that all developments must take environmental considerations into account. The effects of this are uncertain as they are very much dependant on the scale location and nature, of any one development, and the standard of restoration.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for the Settlement Strategy.
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	Protecting healthy carbon rich soils and the habitats they support has a positive effect on the SEA objective.	I	P	+	+	+	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	The option offers a more effective procedural approach to asking for developer contribution, with requirements based on pre-identified settlement specifics. It is considered that these requirements could relate to habitat improvements.	I	P	+	+	+	

Summary and Conclusions:

Around 50% of the National Park is protected by some form of European site designation. The identified effects are therefore considered to be international in scale.

The National Park is protected by a range of national and international designation and is therefore highly sensitive to land use and land management changes. Negative effects have not been identified however a high degree of uncertainty has. This largely because of the size and location of sites within settlements that is likely to have the greatest effect and the options do not deal with these specifically.

This is not to say the potential for negative effects are not recognised. Settlements in Badenoch and Strathspey, for example, are located near areas protected by European sites, for example Anagach Woods near Grantown-on-Spey and Glenmore and Rothiemurchus forests near An Camas Mòr. In these areas, disturbance of species such as capercaillie is possible through increased recreational activities. Mitigation identified through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal, including the implementation of the Capercaillie Framework, as well as the policies of the NPPP and therefore it is considered that negative effects, significant or minor, are unlikely.

In most areas the effects of the Plan are considered to be positive, with the Vision's promotion of landscape scale habitat management, and in particular woodland expansion, offering significantly positive effects.

SEA Issue / Topic

Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora

SEA Objective(s):

6b Maintain and improve the sustainable management of woodland for multiple benefits

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Maintain or improve the capacity of woodland to sequester and store carbon.
- Enhance the ecological functioning of woodland at a landscape scale.
- Avoid the loss of ancient woodland and veteran trees.
- Protect and enhance the environmental services woodland provide (e.g. flood alleviation and pollution mitigation).
- Protect and promote the recreational, cultural, landscape and economic value of woodland.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assents, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	The vision’s objective to ensure that nature thrives within the National Park positively contributes to all aspects of the SEA objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	There are no predicted effects associated with the strategy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policies							
Policy I: New Housing Development							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	Ecological appraisals, which included an assessment of the condition of woodlands and trees that may be affected by development, have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on biodiversity. These have been included within the Settlement Information Section of the Proposed Plan and their requirements will need to be met to gain planning permission. Where necessary, the requirement for further surveys has been identified. Policy 4 also seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity, while Policy 5 also has some positive synergistic effects on the SEA Objective.
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.1.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy I.1.
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy I.1.
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
I.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy I.I.
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy I.I.
2.4 Other economic development	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy I.I.
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the proposed development. The effects are therefore uncertain.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy I.I.
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can be used to ensure that sensitive areas are protected and mitigation and compensatory measures are delivered in the most beneficial way.	I	P	+	+	+	
3.3 Sustainable Design	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	I	P	□	□	□	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	The Policy will help protect the integrity and qualifying features of woodland protected sites.	I	P	+	+	+	
4.2 National designations	The Policy will help protect the integrity and qualifying features of woodland protected sites.	I	P	+	+	+	
4.3 Woodlands	The policy directly supports the aims of this SEA Objective.	I	P	++	++	++	
4.4 Protected species	Protecting woodland species will help support the ecological functioning of woodlands.	I	P	+	+	+	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The policy is likely to support the aims of this SEA Objective through the protection and enhancement of woodland habitats.	I	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	The policy is likely to support the aims of this SEA Objective through the protection and enhancement of woodland habitats.	I	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	The option may have synergistic positive effects, through the creation new areas of trees and woodlands associated with landscaping plans.	I	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	Forestry tracks are the subject of different legislation and guidance. Therefore, there are no predicted effects associated with option.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.6 Minerals	The policy has a presumption against the development of new mineral sites, though it does allow for amendments to and extensions of existing sites. It also requires the remediation of land after sites are closed, which provides opportunities for woodland creation and enhancement. The effects of this are uncertain as they are very much dependant on the scale location and nature, of any one development, and the standard of restoration.	I	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.1.
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	I	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	The option offers a more effective procedural approach to asking for developer contribution, with requirements based on pre-identified settlement specifics. It is considered that these	I	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	requirements could relate to habitat improvements, such as woodland expansion.						

Summary and Conclusions:

The National Park is home to large areas of woodland, much of which is identified as being semi-natural and / or ancient. This woodland act as important habitats and support a wealth of species. Consequently, many are protected as European sites. The identified effects are therefore considered to be international in scale.

Where predicted effects are identified, they are all positive, with interventions within the Policies 4 and 5 offering a means of avoiding negative effects and even supporting for the expansion and enhancement the National Park's trees woodlands.

□

SEA Issue / Topic

Landscape and Cultural Heritage

SEA Objective(s):

7 Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the National Park's landscape and cultural and historic heritage

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Protect and enhance the National Park's special landscape qualities.
- Work towards creating landscapes that are ecologically functional.
- Minimise the loss of wildness.
- Reduce light pollution.
- Value, protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment and its assets.
- To promote high quality design based on a comprehensive understanding of landscape character and distinctiveness.
- Protect and enhance townscape and respect the existing pattern, form and setting of settlements.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, material assets, biodiversity, fauna and flora, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	The vision’s objective to ensure that nature and people thrive together, encompassing both the natural and social aspects of landscape and cultural heritage, positively contributes to meeting all aspects of the SEA objective.	N	P	++	++	++	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	Focusing development in the strategic settlements concentrates the landscape impact of significant development in a small number of locations that are able to accommodate the scale proposed. Negative impacts can therefore be avoided at locations less able to accommodate development within the landscape.	N	P	+	+	+	
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	Focusing development in the strategic and Intermediate settlements concentrates the landscape impact of significant development in a small number of locations that are able to accommodate the scale proposed. Negative impacts can therefore be avoided at locations	N	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	less able to accommodate development within the landscape.						
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	Landscape appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on the special qualities of the National Park. Although the effects of this policy are uncertain, Policies 4 and 5 will help mitigate against any of the possible negative effects facing the National Park's landscape.
1.3 Other housing in the countryside	The effects of the policy depend on the location of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
1.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
1.5 Affordable housing	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
1.6 Affordable housing exception sites	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
2.4 Other economic development	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	The effects of the policy depend on the location and scale of the housing proposed. The effects are therefore uncertain.	N	P	□	□	□	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The policy contributes towards promoting high quality design based on a comprehensive understanding of landscape character and distinctiveness, protecting and enhancing townscapes and respecting the existing pattern, form and setting of settlements.	N	P	++	++	++	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can be used to ensure that sensitive areas are protected and landscaping schemes are delivered in the most effective way.	N	P	+	+	+	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The policy contributes towards promoting high quality design based on a comprehensive understanding of landscape character and distinctiveness, protecting and enhancing townscapes and respecting the existing pattern, form and setting of settlements.	N	P	++	++	++	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	By protecting and enhancing trees and woodlands, the policy is likely to have positive effects on landscape quality.	N	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	By protecting and enhancing biodiversity, the policy is likely to have positive effects on landscape quality.	N	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	By protecting and enhancing biodiversity, the policy is likely to have positive effects on landscape quality.	N	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	The policy actively supports the aims of the SEA Objective.	N	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	The presumption against hill track development is likely to have a positive effect on landscape quality.	N	P	+	+	+	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	The installation of new masts or antennas could have a negative effect on landscape value. The magnitude of the effect is however dependant on the scale and nature of the proposal	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	The installation of new renewable infrastructure could have a negative effect on landscape value. The magnitude of the effect is however dependant on the scale and nature of the proposal	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
7.2 Hydropower	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of Hydropower permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
7.3 Wind energy	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of wind energy permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
7.4 Biomass	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of biomass facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5 Energy from waste	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of energy from waste facilities permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6 Heat networks	The policy outlines additional requirements for the development of heat networks permitted under policy 7.1. There are therefore no predicted negative or positive effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
9.1 Listed buildings	The Policy aims to protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment thereby supporting the aims of the SEA Objective.	N	P	++	++	++	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	The Policy aims to protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment thereby supporting the aims of the SEA Objective.	N	P	++	++	++	
9.3 Conservation areas	The Policy aims to protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment thereby supporting the aims of the SEA Objective.	N	P	++	++	++	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	The Policy aims to protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment thereby supporting the aims of the SEA Objective.	N	P	++	++	++	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.6 Minerals	Well designed and thought-out restoration should benefit the landscape. However, the effects of this are uncertain as they are very much dependant on the scale location and nature, of any one development, and the standard of restoration.	N	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Policy 1.2.
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	Protecting carbon rich soils could have some minor landscape benefits.	N	P	+	+	+	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	The option offers a more effective procedural approach to asking for developer contribution, with requirements based on pre-identified settlement specifics. It is considered that these requirements could result in landscape enhancement.	N	P	+	+	+	

Summary and Conclusions:

The Cairngorms National Park is the UK's largest protected landscape and has a character that is well recognised for its special qualities. Any potential effects on landscape quality or the cultural and historic environment are therefore considered to be national in scale.

Uncertainty identified against a large number of options as it is likely that effects will be dependent on the nature, design and location of development.

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The only negative effect is identified against Policy 1.11. This is however a site based issue and an extremely minor one at that. It is not considered to have any bearing on the overall sustainability of the Plan. It is also important to note that the development of these sites in question is unlikely within the Plan period and therefore it is probable that no negative effects occur at all.

SEA Issue / Topic

Population and Human Health

SEA Objective(s):

8a Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities.

SEA Sub Objective

- Maintain the recreational value of the Cairngorms National Park.
- Promote and maintain opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.
- Encourage walking or cycling as an alternative means of transportation.
- Empower people to experience, learn about and share the Cairngorms National Park's historic, cultural and natural heritage.
- Promote the improvement and maintenance of social and physical environments / facilities that provide opportunities to enhance health and wellbeing.

Significant Interrelationships

Landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	The vision explicitly supports the enjoyment of the National Park and therefore actively promotes opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities.	R	P	++	++	++	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The co-location of housing and economic growth development in the strategic settlements as identified in the will help reduce the reliance on private motor vehicles and encourage walking and cycling.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policies							
Policy 1: New Housing Development							
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The co-location of housing and economic growth development in the strategic settlements as identified in the will help reduce the reliance on private motor vehicles and encourage walking and cycling.	R	P	+	+	+	
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	The provision of housing in locations where it is needed at a scale where it does not adversely affect the amenity of the locality is likely to	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	have some minor positive effects on health and wellbeing.						
I.3 Other housing in the countryside	The provision of housing in locations where it is needed at a scale where it does not adversely affect the amenity of the locality is likely to have some minor positive effects on health and wellbeing.	R	P	+	+	+	
I.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	Good health and wellbeing is linked to the availability of good quality and affordable housing. Ensuring that housing is targeted at those who are most in need will have significant positive benefits against the SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	
I.5 Affordable housing	Good health and wellbeing is linked to the availability of good quality and affordable housing. Aiming for a higher level of affordable housing provision in areas that are under particular pressure, namely Aviemore, Ballater, Braemar and Blair Atholl, will therefore have significant positive benefits against the SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.6 Affordable housing exception sites	Good health and wellbeing is linked to the availability of good quality and affordable housing. The scale of the policy is however likely to be limited and therefore it is considered that the policy will have some minor positive benefits against the SEA objective.	R	P	+	+	+	
1.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.11 Long term designations	Two sites have been identified in Aviemore, which is home to the greatest concentration of services within the National Park. However, the sites are currently within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing. However, their scale allows for the creation of local shops and their integration with the public transport network.	R	P	-	-	-	Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, Policy 11 allows the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
							infrastructure and the public transport network.
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.4 Other economic development	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The policy aims to enable new development that contributes positively to a sense of place and to retain and enhance local character, to create spaces that are legible, inclusive and pleasurable to be in and also promote active travel thus indirectly and directly promoting opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities alike.	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can be used to ensure that new sport and recreation facilities are delivered in conjunction with other uses, thereby having a positive effect on health and wellbeing.	R	P	++	++	++	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The policy aims to enable new development that contributes positively to a sense of place and to retain and enhance local character, to create spaces that are legible, inclusive and pleasurable to be in and also promote active travel thus indirectly and directly promoting opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities alike.	R	P	++	++	++	
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	N	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	The policy will help promote the improvement and maintenance of social and physical environments that provide opportunities to enhance health and wellbeing.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	The policy will help promote the improvement and maintenance of social and physical environments that provide opportunities to enhance health and wellbeing.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.6 All development	The policy will help promote the improvement and maintenance of social and physical environments that provide opportunities to enhance health and wellbeing.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	By requiring development to take landscape quality into account, the policy contributes to the empowerment of people to experience, learn about and share the National Park's landscape.	R	P	+	+	+	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	Developing new sport and recreation facilities could have a positive effect on health and wellbeing.	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	Re-developing and enhancing sport and recreation facilities could have a positive effect on health and wellbeing.	R	P	++	++	++	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	The policy seeks to prevent the loss of open spaces and recreational facilities, which provide opportunities for leading active and healthy lifestyles.	R	P	++	++	++	
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	The policy supports the SEA Objectives aim of empowering people to experience, learn and share the National Park's historic and cultural environment.	R	P	++	++	++	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	The policy supports the SEA Objectives aim of empowering people to experience, learn and share the National Park's historic and cultural environment.	R	P	++	++	++	
9.3 Conservation areas	The policy supports the SEA Objectives aim of empowering people to experience, learn and share the National Park's historic and cultural environment.	R	P	++	++	++	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	The policy supports the SEA Objectives aim of empowering people to experience, learn and share the National Park's historic and cultural environment.	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.6 Minerals	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	The option offers a more effective procedural approach to asking for developer contribution, with requirements based on pre-identified settlement specifics. These requirements could relate to a range of recreation infrastructure	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	and public services facilities that would contribute positively to the SEA Objective.						

Summary and Conclusions:

Overall, the Policies of the LDP offer strong recreational benefits, increasing opportunities physical recreation and enhancing health and wellbeing. Combined, these effects are likely to be significant, particularly when considering the population and housing growth projected and permitted in the local area.

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SEA Issue / Topic

Population and Human Health

SEA Objective(s):

8b Support vibrant, safe and healthy communities.

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Ensure the population and household growth is accommodated in appropriate locations.
- Ensure a suitable affordable housing stock is available to meet needs.
- Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions.
- Promote the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups.
- Redress imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.
- Provide easy access to high quality facilities and services.
- Ensure that adequate healthcare premises are provided throughout the National Park.
- Reduce burden of ill-health in the population.
- Reduce the causes of accidents.
- Ensure the quality of the built environment complements the high quality natural environment.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assents, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/09/2017, 14/09/2017, 15/09/2017, 19/09/2017, 21/11/2018 and 22/11/2018.

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Vision							
Vision: An Outstanding National Park, enjoyed by everyone, where nature and people thrive together	The vision’s explicit objectives to support the enjoyment of the National Park by everyone, where nature and people thrive together actively contributes towards supporting vibrant, safe and healthy communities.	R	P	++	++	++	
Spatial Strategy							
Spatial Strategy	The Strategy's aim to meet the majority housing need in in the strategic settlements but also to ensure that there is a flexible land supply in the smaller settlements should help deliver the SEA objective’s aims to ensure the population and household growth is accommodated in appropriate locations and to ensure a suitable affordable housing stock is available to meet needs, thus supporting vibrant, safe and healthy communities. The concentration of growth in these locations will also help provide easy access to the National Park’s main facilities and services.	R	P	++	++	++	
Policies							
Policy I: New Housing Development							

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
1.1 Housing delivery in settlements	The Strategy's aim to meet the majority housing need in in the strategic settlements but also to ensure that there is a flexible land supply in the smaller settlements should help deliver the SEA objective's aims to ensure the population and household growth is accommodated in appropriate locations and to ensure a suitable affordable housing stock is available to meet needs, thus supporting vibrant, safe and healthy communities. The concentration of growth in these locations will also help provide easy access to the National Park's main facilities and services.	R	P	++	++	++	
1.2 Housing development in existing rural groups	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.3 Other housing in the countryside	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
1.4 Designing for affordability and specialist needs	Good health and wellbeing is linked to the availability of good quality and affordable housing. Ensuring that housing is targeted at those who are most in need will help address inequality and ensure that communities remain vibrant and healthy and have significant positive benefits against the SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
I.5 Affordable housing	Aiming for a higher level of affordable housing provision in areas that are under particular pressure, namely Aviemore, Ballater, Braemar and Blair Atholl, will have significant positive benefits against the SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	
I.6 Affordable housing exception sites	Good health and wellbeing is linked to the availability of good quality and affordable housing. The scale of the policy is however likely to be limited and therefore it is considered that the policy will have some minor positive benefits against the SEA objective.	R	P	+	+	+	
I.7 Alterations to existing houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.8 Conversions	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.9 Replacement houses	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
I.10 Housing for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people	The provision of designated sites and housing for gypsies and travellers where need is required will have a positive benefit on the health and wellbeing of those communities and promote overall social cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
I.11 Long term designations	The sites are within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing	R	P	-	-	-	Policies 3, 7 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	which maynot encourage community interactions and cohesion.						mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, Policy 11 allows the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network.
Policy 2: Supporting Economic Growth							
2.1 Town centres first	The policy aims to meet the retail needs of both towns and smaller settlements, thereby helping to build vibrant, safe and cohesive communities and help redress past imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.	R	P	+	+	+	
2.2 Tourist accommodation	Supporting the year round economy will help support vibrant and healthy communities d help redress past imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.	R	P	+	+	+	
2.3 Other tourism and leisure developments	Supporting the year round economy will help support vibrant and healthy communities d help redress past imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.	R	P	+	+	+	
2.4 Other economic development	Supporting the vitality and viability of the local economy with help build vibrant, safe and cohesive communities and help redress past	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.						
2.5 Protecting existing economic activity	Protecting existing economic activity will help support vitality and viability of the local economy with help build vibrant, safe and cohesive communities and help redress past imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 3: Design and Placemaking							
3.1 Placemaking	The policy will help promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions and ensure the quality of the built environment complements the high quality natural environment.	R	P	+	+	+	
3.2 Major Developments	Masterplanning major developments, which may cross ownership boundaries, can be used to ensure that the built environment compliments the high quality of the natural environment, provides access to high quality facilities and services and removes barriers to public interaction.	R	P	++	++	++	
3.3 Sustainable Design	The policy will help promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	for positive interactions and ensure the quality of the built environment complements the high quality natural environment.						
3.4 Replacing existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
3.5 Converting existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
3.6 Alterations to existing building stock	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 4: Natural Heritage							
4.1 International designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
4.2 National designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
4.3 Woodlands	By protecting and enhancing woodlands and providing access to the natural environment, the policy creates opportunities for leading active, healthy lifestyles, promotes wellbeing and empowers people to access and appreciate the National Park's natural heritage.	R	P	+	+	+	
4.4 Protected species	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy	R	P	□	□	□	
4.5 Other biodiversity	By protecting and enhancing biodiversity and providing access to the natural environment,	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	the policy creates opportunities for leading active, healthy lifestyles, promotes wellbeing and empowers people to access and appreciate the National Park's natural heritage.						
4.6 All development	By protecting and enhancing biodiversity and providing access to the natural environment, the policy creates opportunities for leading active, healthy lifestyles, promotes wellbeing and empowers people to access and appreciate the National Park's natural heritage.	R	P	+	+	+	
Policy 5: Landscape							
5.1 Special Landscape Qualities	By requiring development to take landscape quality into account, the policy helps to ensure the quality of the built environment complements the high quality natural environment.	R	P	+	+	+	
5.2 Private Roads and Ways	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment							
Policy 6: The Siting and Design of Digital Communications Equipment	The policy enables the provision of high quality services, namely broadband and mobile data.	R	P	+	+	+	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Policy 7: Renewable Energy							
7.1 All renewable energy developments	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.2 Hydropower	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.3 Wind energy	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.4 Biomass	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.5 Energy from waste	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
7.6 Heat networks	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 8: Open Space, Sport and Recreation							
8.1 New development	Providing sport and recreation facilities will help sustain communities and directly support this SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	
8.2 Re-development of outdoor sports facilities	Re-developing and enhancing sport and recreation facilities will help sustain communities and directly support this SEA objective.	R	P	++	++	++	
8.3 Re-development of other open space	The policy seeks to prevent the loss of open spaces and recreational facilities, which provide	R	P	++	++	++	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	opportunities for positive interactions and social cohesion.						
Policy 9: Cultural Heritage							
9.1 Listed buildings	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.2 Cultural and historic designations	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.3 Conservation areas	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.4 Other cultural heritage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Policy 10: Resources							
10.1 Water resources	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.2 Flooding	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.3 Connection to sewerage	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.4 Waste management and minimisation	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.5 Landfill	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Plan Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
10.6 Minerals	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.7 Carbon sinks and stores	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
10.8 Contaminated land	There are no predicted effects associated with this policy.	R	P	□	□	□	
Policy 11: Developer Obligations							
Policy 11: Developer Obligations	The option offers a more effective procedural approach to asking for developer contribution, with requirements based on pre-identified settlement specifics, including the provision of healthcare facilities. These requirements could relate to a range of recreation infrastructure and public services facilities that would contribute positively to the SEA Objective.	R	P	++	++	++	

Summary and Conclusions:

Overall, the Policies of the LDP offer strong benefits for increasing inclusion and positive social interactions. Combined, these effects are likely to be significant, particularly when considering the population and housing growth projected and permitted in the local area.

The only negative effect is identified against Policy 1.11. This is however a site based issue and an extremely minor one at that. It is not considered to have any bearing on the overall sustainability of the Plan. It is also important to note that the development of these sites in question is unlikely within the Plan period and therefore it is probable that no negative effects occur at all.

Appendix 7: Assessment of Sites

SEA Issue / Topic

Climatic Factors

SEA Objective(s):

Ia Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases with particular focus on emissions from buildings, transport, energy generation and industry (especially CO₂).
- Encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency.
- Encourage investment in cleaner technologies.
- Support investment in suitable renewable energy sources.
- Decouple increase in GDP and greenhouse gas emissions
- Encourage the appropriate local sourcing of materials, resources and food produce.

Significant Interrelationships

Air, water, soil, material assets, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	The effects of climate change have been a key consideration in the formation of the LDP's overall Settlement Strategy, with the focus of Strategic and Intermediate Settlement's designed to reduce the reliance on private motor vehicles. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed to direct development to these more sustainable locations Policies 3, and 7 also have elements that require the delivery of different types of mitigation that will limit the effects of the site on the climate, including building high quality and energy efficient buildings that incorporate renewable energy technologies. Through these policies, where appropriate development should include provision for improved pedestrian and public transport infrastructure.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								This may include the provision of pavements, public footpaths, cycle tracks and improved on-site access.
H2	Dalfaber 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
M2	Laurel Bank	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.						
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Granish	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	The effects will depend on the facilities available in the new settlement. There may be negative effects early in the site's early phases, as residents need to travel to Aviemore to access facilities, however these may reduce in the future as new facilities are developed in An Camas Mòr.	I	P	-	?	?	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
CI	Former School Site	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Grantown-on-Spey								
H1	Beachen Court	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H2	Castle Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
CI	Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C3	Land at Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Kingussie								
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C1	Ardovnie Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
C2	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.						
C3	Am Fasgadh	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
C4	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Council Depot	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Newtonmore								
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Rear of Café	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Industrial Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Highland Folk Museum	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle. There is no pavement, though a public right away does run along the river side.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.						
ED I	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
T3	Visitor Gateway	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Boat of Garten								
ED I	The Steam Railway Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H3	Kindrochit Court	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
ED1	Ambulance Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED2	The Mews	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing. There is also no pavement to the main part of the settlement.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. The creation of a footpath and traffic calming measures, as outlined in the site's current development Brief.
H2	Crannich Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Cromdale								
HI	Kirk Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H2	Auchroisk Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Dulnain Bridge								
HI	Land west of play area	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.						
H2	Land adjacent to A938	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Dulnain Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Lettoch Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
H2	Lecht Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Garage North East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Land by A939	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
T1	Land to the South West	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Garage Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor vehicle.	I	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Former Steading	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and other housing. There is also no pavement to the main part of the settlement.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Glenmore								
TI	Glenmore Camp Site	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle. There is however already good public footpath infrastructure connecting the site to other parts of Glenmore, the surrounding area and Aviemore.						
T2	Glenmore Lodge	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle. There is however already good public footpath infrastructure connecting the site to other parts of Glenmore, the surrounding area and Aviemore.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achdunchil, Laggan	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle, being located some distance outside of Laggan. There is no pavement to Laggan itself, however there is an indirect network of public footpaths that means that the road can be avoided for the most part.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Furthermore, improvement to the public footpath network, which may include the creation of roadside pavements at certain points, would help encourage walking and cycling.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		In proactive however, journeys by private motor vehicle are likely to be the norm. The effects of the allocation are however limited by the scale of the proposed development.						

SEA Issue / Topic

Climatic Factors

SEA Objective(s):

Ib Increase resilience to the effects of climate change

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Ensure that new development is appropriately located, having considered the potential effects of future climate conditions.
- Ensure infrastructure and buildings are designed to cope with future climate conditions.
- Encourage climate change adaptation through green infrastructure.
- Encourage existing infrastructure and buildings to adapt to cope with future climate conditions.

Significant Interrelationships

Water, soil, landscape and cultural heritage, biodiversity, fauna and flora, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	Around 10% site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone. This only affects an area along its eastern boundary.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>The Settlement Strategy has been designed to locate development in the most sustainable locations, a key part of which has been the desire to locate development in those areas least susceptible to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>With respect to flood risk, both present and future, development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>sites that may be subject to some risk. Where necessary, these site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be required on sites where they have been deemed necessary.</p> <p>Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Both policies may also be used to ensure that flood resistant building measures are incorporated into developments. Other policies may also have indirect effects in</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation:</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“Should the existing permission expire or be varied, a revised Flood Risk Assessment and hydromorphological study will be required to identify the functional floodplain and developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A revised Drainage Impact Assessment may be required.”</i></p>
H2	Dalfaber 2	No site specific effects.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site's north eastern boundary runs along a burn and consequently a small strip along this boundary is affected by the medium probability flood zone. Across the site there are patches of medium and high probability surface water flood risk, though combined this probably equates to less than 15%.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation:</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
M2	Laurel Bank	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The whole site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
EDI	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	Parts of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These areas are however already developed.	R	P	□	□	□	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Granish	Patches of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Combined these equate to less than 10%.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
ACM	An Camas Mòr	Large areas of the site are affected by the medium and low probability river extent and	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		surface water flood zones. These areas fall outside of the site's preferred area. However, a large proportion of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.						<p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p>
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone. Aberdeenshire Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned a flood study for Ballater, which reviewed the hydrology of the area in light of Storm Frank. The draft Storm Frank extents have been used to inform the site assessment.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adjustments to site layout to provide new open space in the areas that are at risk from flooding ➤ Requierment in the site information section of the LDP that development of the site take account of the Ballater Flood study commissioned by Aberdeenshire Council and that safe access and egress

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>options need to be identified.</p> <p>➤ Requirement for a Drainage impact assessment.</p> <p>Add following wording:</p> <p><i>“Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned a flood study for Ballater. Any site layout will need to take account of the functional flood plain, as defined in the Ballater Flood Study, and will require safe access and egress.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
CI	Former School Site	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The whole site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
T1	Ballater Caravan Park	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	□	□	□	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Grantown-on-Spey								
HI	Beachen Court	Around 10% of the site is affected by the low probability river extend flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A revised Flood Risk Assessment will be required."</p> <p>"A revised Drainage Impact Assessment will be required and any new development must take account of and ensure integration with the existing SuDS scheme."</p>
H2	Castle Road	Patches of the site, which combined equate to around 15% of its area, are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. The most significant of these of these are outside of the site's preferred area.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment will be required."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assesment is required."</p>
C1	Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	Around 10% of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
C3	Land at Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
TI	Grantown Caravan Park	A small area of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flooding zone. This area is however small and in an area	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		currently in use by the site owners for caravan pitches. No effects are therefore considered likely from the identification of this allocation.						
Kingussie								
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	A small area of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. The area is however so small that it is unlikely to have an effect.	R	P	□	□	□	
C1	Ardoynie Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	
C3	Am Fasgadh	Around 70% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed in some form.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
C4	Car Park	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Council Depot	Around 50% of the site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zones.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i> <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
ED2	McCormack's Garage	No site specific effects, although the medium and high probability flood zone surrounds the site.	R	P	□	□	□	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to to accompany any further development proposals."
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas are however already developed or excluded from the developable area.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
Newtonmore								
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone. This area is however confined to the south and is excluded from the site's developable area.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
EDI	Rear of Café	No site specific effects, although the site is surrounded by the medium and high probability flood zone.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED2	Industrial Park	Parts of the site are affected by the low medium and low probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
TI	Highland Folk Museum	A small area along the site's southern boundary is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Owing to the nature of the site's use it is unlikely that this is going to be developed.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i>
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	A small part of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding and surface water flood zones.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i></p> <p><i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</i></p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H3	Land north of Little Orchard	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED I	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. The site is however already developed.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
TI	Blair Castle Caravan Park	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</p>
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</p>
T3	Visitor Gateway	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H3	Kindrochit Court	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Ambulance Station	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	The Mews	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone. This part is not within the area preferred for the extension of the caravan park.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Carr - Bridge								
HI	Carr Road	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Around half the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding. This wooded area falls outside of the site's preferred area.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: “A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues”

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Crannich Park	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: "A revised Flood Risk Assessment may be required."
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: "A revised Flood Risk Assessment may be required."
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	Around 50% is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								Include following requirements: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.” “A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues”
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Auchroisk Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
EDI	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EDI	Dulnain Garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	Around 40% of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone and a watercourse runs along its western edge.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</p> <p>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Baldow Smiddy	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lettoch Road	Around 40% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The preferred part of the site is not within this area.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lecht Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage North East	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Land by A939	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Land to the South West	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rural Settlement								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Calvine								
CI	Old School	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EDI	Garage Site	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	Large amount of site is wooded so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Former Steading	A small area of the site, certainly less than 5%, is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Glenmore								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone, essentially following the path of a water course.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
T2	Glenmore Lodge	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	Around 40% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone, essentially following the path of a water course.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Laggan								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	Around 15% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone and surface water run-off zone. Most of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p>

SEA Issue / Topic

Air

SEA Objective(s):

2 Protect and enhance air quality

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Reduce levels of the UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO₂, PM₁₀, SO₂).
- Reduce levels of ground-level ozone (O₃).
- Reduce the need for travel, through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public infrastructure.
- Reduce negative effects of power generation, industry and transport on local air quality.
- Contribute towards reducing levels of stratospheric ozone depletions.
- Encourage appropriate cleaner technology for power generation, industry and transport.
- Reduce levels of acid deposition.
- Reduce levels of ammonia deposition.

Significant Interrelationships

Water, soil biodiversity, fauna and flora, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	The Settlement Strategy supports the improvement of an integrated and sustainable walking and cycling network with better links to transport. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed to direct development to more sustainable locations. Furthermore, Policies 3 and 11 have a wide range of elements that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective, including encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy technologies into development, requiring a high standard of design and the LPA to ask for developer obligations to deliver improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure and the public transport network. The overall policy approach is

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								supported by the Cairngorms NPPP, particular Policy 3.2.
H2	Dalfaber 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
M2	Laurel Bank	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car. In vicinity of WWTW, Granish Landfill and waste transfer station.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Granish	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	The effects will depend on the facilities available in the new settlement. There may be negative effects early in the site's early phases, as residents need to travel to Aviemore to access facilities, however these may reduce in the future as new facilities are developed in An Camas Mòr	L	P	-	?	?	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
CI	Former School Site	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and	L	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.						
ED I	Ballater Business Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T I	Ballater Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Grantown-on-Spey								
H I	Beachen Court	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H I.
H2	Castle Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C I	Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H I.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C3	Land at Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
TI	Grantown Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Kingussie								
HI	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C1	Ardovnie Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C2	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
C3	Am Fasgadh	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car. Area of site SE of railway is	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		on site of old sewage works and scrap yard. Is adjacent to new Sewage works and existing scrap yard.						
C4	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Council Depot	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Newtonmore								
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Rear of Café	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Industrial Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Highland Folk Museum	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle. There is no pavement, though a public right away does run along the river side.	L	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and	L	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.						
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T3	Visitor Gateway	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Boat of Garten								
EDI	The Steam Railway Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Braemar								
HI	Chapel Brae I	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
H3	Kindrochit Court	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Ambulance Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED2	The Mews	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Crannich Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
H2	Auchroisk Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Dulnain Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Nethy Bridge								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Lettoch Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
H2	Lecht Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Garage North East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Land by A939	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
T1	Land to the South West	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Garage Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, other local facilities and housing, which reduces the need to travel by private motor car.	L	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Former Steading	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing. There is also no pavement.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Glenmore								
TI	Glenmore Camp Site	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by	L	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		private motor vehicle. There is however already good public footpath infrastructure connecting the site to other parts of Glenmore, the surrounding area and Aviemore.						
T2	Glenmore Lodge	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle. There is however already good public footpath infrastructure connecting the site to other parts of Glenmore, the surrounding area and Aviemore.	L	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Inverdrurie and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	L	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, other local facilities and housing, which increases the need to travel by private motor vehicle, being located some distance outside of Laggan. There is no pavement to Laggan itself; however there is an indirect network of public footpaths that means that the road can be avoided for the most part. In proactive however, journeys by private	L	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		motor vehicle are likely to be the norm. The effects of the allocation are however limited by the scale of the proposed development.						

SEA Issue / Topic

Water

SEA Objective(s):

3a Reduce flood risk

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Safeguard the functional floodplain.
- Encourage the restoration of a natural flood regime.
- Promote land uses and habitat changes that will help to decrease run-off, stabilise slopes, and attenuate flows.
- Ensure new development is not located in areas of high or medium flood risk.
- Ensure new development does not increase flood risk on site or elsewhere.
- Increase the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in both new and refurbished developments.
- Avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces.
- Reduce reliance on flood mitigation and hard engineered solutions.
- Increase provision to manage stormwater.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, soil, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	Around 10% site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone. This only affects an area along its eastern boundary.	R	P	-	-	-	Development, whether it be on allocated sites or windfall, will need to meet the requirements of Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy. Under the provisions of the 2009 Act, the CNPA has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for all sites identified for allocation within the Proposed Plan and recommends methods of managing flood risk on sites that may be subject to some risk. These site specific recommendations have been incorporated into the Settlement Information section of the Proposed Plan and will therefore need to be met in order for planning permission to be gained. Further, more detailed Flood Risk Assessments will be

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>required on sites where they have been deemed necessary. Policies 3 and 10 have a wide range of elements relating to design and SuDS, which are applicable to all developments that will help mitigate the negative effects of this policy on the SEA Objective. Other policies may also have indirect effects in mitigating any negative effects, for example, Policies 4 and 5. It is however important to note that the development of these sites is unlikely within the Plan period.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation:</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“Should the existing permission expire or be varied, a revised Flood Risk Assessment and hydromorphological study will be required to identify the functional floodplain and developable area.”</i></p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								"A revised Drainage Impact Assessment may be required."
H2	Dalfaber 2	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site's north eastern boundary runs along a burn and consequently a small strip along this boundary is affected by the medium probability flood zone. Across the site there are patches of medium and high probability surface water flood risk, though combined this probably equates of less than 15%.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation:</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
M2	Laurel Bank	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The whole site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	Parts of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These areas are however already developed.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Granish	Patches of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Combined these equate to less than 10%.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
ACM	An Camas Mòr	Large areas of the site are affected by the medium and low probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas fall outside of the site's preferred area. However, a large amount of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p>
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone. Aberdeenshire Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned a flood study for Ballater, which reviewed the hydrology of the area in light of Storm Frank.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation includes:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		The draft Storm Frank extents have been used to inform the site assessment.						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adjustments to site layout to provide new open space in the areas that are at risk from flooding ➤ Requirement in the site information section of the LDP that development of the site take account of the Ballater Flood study commissioned by Aberdeenshire Council and that safe access and egress options need to be identified. ➤ Requirement for a Drainage impact assessment. <p>Add following wording:</p> <p><i>“Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned a flood study for Ballater. Any site layout will need to take account of the functional flood plain, as defined in the Ballater Flood Study, and will require safe access and egress.”</i></p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
CI	Former School Site	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The whole site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: <i>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</i>
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."
Grantown-on-Spey								
H1	Beachen Court	Around 10% of the site is affected by the low probability river extend flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p>"A revised Flood Risk Assessment will be required."</p> <p>"A revised Drainage Impact Assessment will be required and any new development must take account of and ensure integration with the existing SuDS scheme."</p>
H2	Castle Road	Patches of the site, which combined equate to around 15% of its area, are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. The most significant of these of these are outside of the site's preferred area.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A Flood Risk Assessment will be required."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required."</p>
C1	Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	Around 10% of the site is affected by medium probability surface water flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
C3	Land at Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: <i>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</i>
TI	Grantown Caravan Park	A small area of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flooding zone. This area is however small and in an area currently in use by the site owners for caravan pitches. No effects are therefore considered likely from the identification of this allocation.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kingussie								
HI	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	A small area of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. The area is however so small that it is unlikely to have an effect.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
CI	Ardoynie Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C2	Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	
C3	Am Fasgadh	Around 70% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed in some form.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.” “A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues.”
C4	Car Park	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Council Depot	Around 50% of the site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zones.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues.”</i></p>
ED2	McCormack's Garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to to accompany any further development proposals.”</i></p>
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas are however already developed or excluded from the developable area.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
Newtonmore								
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone. This area is however confined to the south and is excluded from the site's developable area.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues."</p>
EDI	Rear of Café	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
ED2	Industrial Park	Parts of the site are affected by the low medium and low probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"
T1	Highland Folk Museum	A small area along the site's southern boundary is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Owing to the nature of the site's use it is unlikely that this is going to be developed.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</p>
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
HI	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.” “A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. The site is however already developed.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</p>
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.	R	P	□	□	□	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requirements:</p> <p>"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."</p> <p>"A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"</p>
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
T3	Visitor Gateway	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.</p> <p>Site specific mitigation</p> <p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
Boat of Garten								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H3	Kindrochit Court	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Ambulance Station	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	The Mews	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone. This part is not within the area preferred for the extension of the caravan park.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Around half the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding. This wooded area falls outside of the site's preferred area.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: "A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should address existing surface water flooding issues"
H2	Crannich Park	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requirements: "A revised Flood Risk Assessment may be required."

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: "A revised Flood Risk Assessment may be required."
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	Around 50% is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: "A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect.	R	P	□	□	□	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>Include following requierments:</p> <p><i>“A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”</i></p> <p><i>“A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”</i></p>
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Auchroisk Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Dulnain Garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kincraig								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Land Opposite School	Around 40% of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone and a watercourse runs along its western edge.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.” “A Drainage Impact Assessment is required and should adress existing surface water flooding issues”
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
H2	Lettoch Road	Around 40% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The preferred part of the site is not within this area.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								"A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area."
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lecht Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage North East	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Land by A939	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Land to the South West	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dalwhinnie								
H1	Land by garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage Site	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dinnet								
H1	Land to East	Large amount of site is wooded so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.						
ED I	Former Steading	A small area of the site, certainly less than 5%, is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extend flood zone, essentially following the path of a water course.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
T2	Glenmore Lodge	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
TI	Camping Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	Around 50% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Most of the site is wooded, so development would result in a loss of trees, which have benefits in terms of managing the effects of climate change, especially those related to flooding.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation Include following requierments: “A Flood Risk Assessment or other supporting information will be required to identify the developable area.”

SEA Issue / Topic

Water

SEA Objective(s):

3b Maintain and improve the quality of water resources

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Ensure the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water is maintained or improved.
- Maintain and improve the ability of river catchments to store water.
- Conserve public water supply.
- Reduce demand for water and minimise unnecessary water use.
- Reduce diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas.
- Limit land use related pollution (particularly nitrates) on water resources.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, soil, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
H1	Dalfaber 1	Around 10% site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone. This only affects an area along its eastern boundary. This could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	Policy 10 requires SUDS to be implemented as part of all developments in order to manage on-site run-off and reduce flood risk in adjacent areas. Management schemes can be put in place to ensure negative effects do not arise during construction.
H2	Dalfaber 2	No site specific effects.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site's north eastern boundary runs along a burn and consequently a small strip along this boundary is affected by the medium probability flood zone. Across the site there are patches of medium and high probability surface water flood risk, though combined this probably equates of less than 15%. There is therefore a risk that surface water run-off, which could contain pollutants, could enter the river system having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development..	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M2	Laurel Bank	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone, which could	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.						
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The whole site is affected by the low probability river extent flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Granish	Patches of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. Combined these equate to less than 10%. This could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ACM	An Camas Mòr	Large areas of the site are affected by the medium and low probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas fall outside of the site's preferred area. This could still however result in development having a negative effect on water quality. Furthermore, a development of this scale would put pressure on water infrastructure within the Strath and would require significant upgrades to the current systems.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	Around 20% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Former School Site	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The whole site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	N	P	□	□	□	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Grantown-on-Spey								
H1	Beachen Court	Around 10% of the site is affected by the low probability river extend flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Castle Road	Patches of the site, which combined equate to around 15% of its area, are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. While most significant of these of these are outside of the site's preferred area, this could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C1	Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	No site specific effects.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
C3	Land at Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
ED1	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
Kingussie								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	A small area of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. The area is however so small that it is unlikely to have an effect on water quality.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
CI	Ardoynie Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is it's current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
C2	Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is it's current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
C3	Am Fasgadh	Around 70% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Most of the site is however already developed in some form.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
C4	Car Park	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. However, the site is already used as car parking and there will be no further surface-water runoff.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Council Depot	Around 50% of the site is affected by the low and medium probability river extent flood zones, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The site is currently in use as a car park and is entirely covered by impermeable surfaces. The LDP does not propose any changes in land.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. These areas are however already developed or excluded from the developable area.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Newtonmore								
H1	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	Around 20% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. This area is however confined to the south and is excluded from the site's developable area.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Rear of Café	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Industrial Park	Parts of the site are affected by the low medium and low probability river extent flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
T1	Highland Folk Museum	A small area along the site's southern boundary is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. Owing to the nature of the site's use it is unlikely that this is going to be developed.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	A small part of the site is affected by the medium probability river flooding and surface water flood zones. This area is not included within the part of the site that is considered to be preferred.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The whole site is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zones. The site is however already developed.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	Small areas of the site are affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone. These are however so minor that they are unlikely to have an effect on water quality.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T3	Visitor Gateway	Around 50% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The site is however already developed.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H3	Kindrochit Court	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Ambulance Station	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	The Mews	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	Around 60% of the site is affected by the low probability river flooding zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Crannich Park	Around 10% is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is affected by small patches of the medium probability surface water flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	Around 50% is affected by the medium probability river extent and surface water flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Auchroisk Park	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Dulnain Garage	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	Around 40% of the site is affected by the medium probability surface water flood zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
ED1	Baldow Smiddy	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
H2	Lettoch Road	Around 40% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone. The preferred part of the site is not within this area, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lecht Drive	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage North East	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Land by A939	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
TI	Land to the South West	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dalwhinnie								
H1	Land by garage	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage Site	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dinnet								
H1	Land to East	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Former Steading	No site specific effects.	N	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Glenmore								
TI	Glenmore Camp Site	Around 15% of the site is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zones, which could lead to development having a	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.						
T2	Glenmore Lodge	No site specific effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing. This could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	Around 15% is affected by the medium probability river extent flood zone and surface water run-off zone, which could lead to development having a negative effect on water quality, during construction and the life of the development.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

SEA Issue / Topic

Soil

SEA Objective(s):

4 Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve soil and peat quality.

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Maintain or improve the productive capacity of soils.
- Maintain or improve the ability of farmland in the Park to sustainably produce high quality local and seasonal food.
- Avoid increased diffuse pollution, particularly SO₂ and NO₂ emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture and other economic activities.
- Protect and enhance soil quantity (including non-chemical soil functions and processes such as permeability) and quantity, especially of carbon rich soils.
- Maintain, restore or improve the carbon storage capacity of peat and soils.
- Minimise carbon emissions from land use (e.g. muirburn).
- Avoid and reduce contamination of soils.
- Promote the regeneration and redevelopment of brownfield and contaminated land.
- Take account of soil function.
- Minimise soil erosion.
- Minimise soil sealing.
- Minimise soil compaction.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, water, material assents, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
H1	Dalfaber 1	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	In order to maximise the use of land, thereby reducing the negative effects on soil, sites have been allocated to offer the highest density of development possible, without appearing out of place with their surroundings.
H2	Dalfaber 2	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site is a mixture of greenfield, previously developed land and developed land. Much of the land identified as previously developed is currently used as overflow car-parking and is almost entirely covered in hard standing. There is a significant area of greenfield land in the north-west that is greenfield, which already has consent for housing. There will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M2	Laurel Bank	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C2	Former School Playing Fields	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	This is a half greenfield and half brownfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing. Utilising the remaining on brownfield land will however reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land. Due to the extent of the greenfield element, the overall effect is considered to be negative.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Granish	This is a mostly brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing.	R	P	+	+	+	
ACM	An Camas Mòr	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	This is a mostly greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Former School Site	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
Grantown-on-Spey								
HI	Beachen Court	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Castle Road	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Mossie Road	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Land at Mossie Road	No significant effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Grantown Caravan Park	This is a mostly brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land. Camping pitches do not require surfacing while other forms of development such as chalets or caravan pitches are unlikely to require significant loss of soil.	R	P	+	+	+	
Kingussie								
HI	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Ardovnie Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C2	Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	
C3	Am Fasgadh	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land. Area of site SE of railway is on site of old sewage works and scrap yard. Is adjacent to new Sewage works and existing scrap yard.	R	P	+	+	+	
C4	Car Park	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Council Depot	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Newtonmore								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Rear of Café	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Industrial Park	This is a half greenfield and half brownfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing. Utilising the remaining on brownfield land will however reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land. Due to the extent of the greenfield element, the overall effect is considered to be negative.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Highland Folk Museum	This is a mostly greenfield site therefore there could be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
HI	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	This is a mostly greenfield site therefore there could be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	This is a mostly greenfield site therefore there could be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
T3	Visitor Gateway	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H3	Kindrochit Court	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H4	Chapel Brae 2	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Ambulance Station	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	The Mews	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	This is a mixture of greenfield and brownfield land therefore there will be some soil sealing. Given the proposed use of the site, this is not considered to be significant,	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Crannich Park	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Land at Railway Station	This is a mostly brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Greenfield element is steep so topography prevents development. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	This is a mostly greenfield site therefore there could be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Auchroisk Park	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Land adjacent to A938	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Dulnain Garage	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Lettoch Road	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Lecht Drive	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Garage North East	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Land by A939	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing. Presence of peat on a small area of the site.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Land to the South West	This is a greenfield site therefore there is the potential for some soil sealing. However, the nature of the development, which is camping pitches, means that this is likely to be extremely limited.	R	P	□	□	□	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	This is a brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Garage Site	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Former Steading	This is a mostly brownfield site therefore there will be little soil sealing. Building on brownfield land will also reduce the pressure to develop on greenfield land.	R	P	+	+	+	
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	Proposal is to maintain the site's current use as a campsite. Further soil sealing is not considered likely.	R	P	□	□	□	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	Proposal is to maintain the site's current use as a campsite. Further soil sealing is not considered likely.	R	P	□	□	□	
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing, however the use of the site is unlikely to lead to significant soil sealing.	R	P	□	□	□	
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing. There is deep present along the site's north western boundary.	R	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI. Site specific mitigation:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								Recommend a peat survey be required as one of the site specific requierments.

SEA Issue / Topic

Material Assets

SEA Objective(s):

5 Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets.

SEA Sub-Objective

- Promote decoupling of resource use from economic prosperity.
- Encourage sustainable use of natural resources e.g. water, timber, aggregates.
- Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials.
- Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Value, conserve and enhance geodiversity.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
H1	Dalfaber 1	No site specific effects.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
H2	Dalfaber 2	No site specific effects.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	No site specific effects.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
M2	Laurel Bank	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	☐	☐	☐	
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED3	Granish	The reuse of a mostly brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
ACM	An Camas Mòr	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
CI	Former School Site	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Grantown-on-Spey								
HI	Beachen Court	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
H2	Castle Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
CI	Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C3	Land at Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	The reuse of a mostly brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Kingussie								
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
C1	Ardovnie Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	
C2	Car Park	The site is allocated as a carpark which is its current function. The LDP does not therefore propose any changes in land.	R	P	□	□	□	
C3	Am Fasgadh	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
C4	Car Park	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P				

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Council Depot	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Newtonmore								
H1	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Rear of Café	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Industrial Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
T1	Highland Folk Museum	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
	and Old Bridge of Tilt							
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T3	Visitor Gateway	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H3	Kindrochit Court	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Ambulance Station	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	The Mews	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Crannich Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
H2	Auchroisk Park	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Rosebankd Cottage and surrounding land	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Dulnain Garage	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Baldow Smiddy	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lettoch Road	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lecht Drive	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage North East	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Land by A939	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Land to the South West	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Dalwhinnie								
H1	Land by garage	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage Site	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dinnet								
H1	Land to East	No site specific effects.	R	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Former Steading	The reuse of a brownfield site represents the sustainable use of land, which is a finite resource.	R	P	+	+	+	
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	This is a greenfield site therefore there will be some soil sealing, however the use of the site is unlikely to lead to significant soil sealing.	R	P	□	□	□	
Laggan								
H1	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	No site specific effects.	R	P	□	□	□	

SEA Issue / Topic

Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora

SEA Objective(s):

6a Value, conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive wild species and habitats

SEA Sub-Objective

- Protect the integrity of European sites, proposed European sites and listed Ramsar sites, and to conserve or, where not at a favourable conservation status, enhance their interest features.
- Avoid damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and encourage their enhancement and connection.
- Conserve and enhance the viability and diversity of distinctive species and habitats and their connectivity.
- Avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases.
- Conserve, enhance and create appropriate wildlife habitats and wider biodiversity within and outwith settlements.
- Encourage innovative methods of producing biodiversity gain for both new and existing developments.
- Reduce the ecological footprint of the Cairngorms National Park.
- Enable people to access and appreciate the Cairngorms National Park's natural heritage.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assets, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	Site mostly consists of improved agricultural fields with low ecological value. Some areas of mature birch woodland, species rich grassland and scrub. Site is known site for Andrena marginata (Cairngorms Nature Action Plan species).	I	P	-	-	-	Ecological appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on biodiversity. Where necessary, these have been included within the Settlement Information Section of the Proposed Plan and their requirements will need to be met to gain planning permission. Where necessary, the requirement for further surveys has been identified. Where no site specific requirements have been identified, requirements are set out by Policy 4, which applies to all development, and seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity. Mitigation is applied through Policy 4, with:

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4.1 dealing with the potential effects on International Designations, such as SACs, SPAs, SSSIs and Ramsar sites; ➤ 4.2 dealing with the potential effects on national designations such as SSSIs, NNRs and NSAs; ➤ 4.3 dealing with the potential effects on woodland habitats, including areas identified on the AWI; ➤ 4.4 dealing with the potential effects on protected species, including European Protected Species, species protected under Schedule 1, 1A, A1 and 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and badgers and their sets, as required but h the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended).

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>➤ 4.5 dealing with the potential effects on other habitats and species, such as those listed in Annexes I I of V of the EC Habitats Directive, Annex I of the EC Birds Directive, CNAP, UKBAP, Birds of Conservation Concern and Scottish Biodiversity List.</p> <p>➤ 4.6 dealing with the potential effects any other protected priority habitat or species that may be present on or adjacent to a site.</p> <p>Policies 5 and 11 also have some positive synergistic effects on the SEA Objective as landscaping schemes can deliver biodiversity gain while Policy offers the means to fund broader scale mitigation.</p> <p>With regard to Capercaillie, the CNPA is in the process of</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>developing a Capercaillie Framework, which it is intended the LDP support, which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bring together existing knowledge on the state of Capercaillie across the Cairngorms National Park, the combined knowledge of the pressures they face, particularly with regard to recreation and housing development; and the suite of management measures currently being deployed, using spatial mapped data where possible; ➤ inform future decisions about co-ordinated deployment of management measures for Capercaillie conservation; ➤ identify what else we may need to do, where we may need further investment or

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>resources and highlight the future agenda for management action.</p> <p>The CNPA has published a report on Phase 1 of the Framework (2015). This takes the form of a map-based framework that helps to co-ordinate the management of the National Park with the aim of safeguarding and expanding the Capercaillie population across the area.</p> <p>Work on Phase 2 is underway and is supported by Heritage Lottery Funding. Where effects are identified from the development of sites, further funding for mitigation may be levied through Policy 11. The HRA on the LDP has identified the areas where this is likely to be the case and mitigation measures</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								have been identified included within the LDP where necessary.
H2	Dalfaber 2	The site comprises of semi-natural birch woodland with mature trees. Open glades contain grassland and heather communities.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	This is a substantial site that encompasses a mixture of greenfield, brownfield and developed land. This includes an ornamental landscape with mature trees within amenity grassland, TPOs, annual meadow grass, thistle and rosebay willowherb, scrub and mosaic and riparian woodland. There is connectivity through Aviemore Burn to Spey SAC and woodland corridor further downstream. Furthermore, the proximity of the site to Kinveachy Forest SPA means there could be disturbance to capercaillie, one of its main qualifying features.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
M2	Laurel Bank	Site is a hall, two houses and amusement arcade and is located close to Aviemore Burn which runs into the River Spey SAC. Site is unlikely to be home to any species habitats of value. The site has the potential to deliver housing, though not in great number. This	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		could result in offsite effects on capercaillie, one of the qualifying features of Kinveachy Forest SPA, through recreation.						
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	Some of the site has been built on – ATC building in western end, rest is mix of unmanaged amenity grassland bordered by a strip of mature trees, pine, birch and rowan.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C2	Former School Playing Fields	Former school playing fields, presumed low ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	Good habitats of birch woodland and heath, informal path runs through the site. The existing habitat should be retained as much as possible and managed to retain the areas of open heath.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	Existing industrial estate, low ecological value	I	P	□	□	□	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	Existing industrial estate, low ecological value	I	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Granish	Around 15% the site is on ancient woodland although some of this has been damaged through the on-site uses. The existing industrial estate, low ecological value.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	Owing to the site's scale and the habitats that exist on site, the effects of the proposal are likely to be significantly adverse in the short to	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		medium term. Furthermore, due to the site's proximity to Kinveachy Forest SPA and other capercaillie SPAs and woodlands, offsite effects on capercaillie, could occur.						
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	The NW section which comprises of species rich unimproved grassland and scattered mature broadleaves as this habitat is of high ecological value. The arable fields which are of low ecological value and will be relatively simple to assess (ecological surveys will be negligible). The site has connectivity with the River Dee SAC, which could be negatively affected during the construction phase.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Former School Site	Derelect school - potential to support bats and breeding birds. Mitigation & compensation should be possible.	I	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	Existing industrial estate, low ecological value. Scope for enhancement with good design.	I	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	Existing caravan park - comprises of amenity grassland with some planted trees. Adjacent to the River Dee SAC.	I	P	□	□	□	
Grantown-on-Spey								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Beachen Court	Pastoral area with some areas species rich, small stand of aspens along dry stane dyke. Scope for enhancement with good design	I	P	+	+	+	
H2	Castle Road	Grassland mosaics including species rich meadow which supports <i>Andrena marginata</i> in the north-west corner, plus marshy grassland with potential for deep peat. Area known to support breeding waders. Any proposal would need to avoid significant impacts to habitat that supports these features.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
C1	Mossie Road	Semi-improved field (pastoral - for horses). Low ecological value. Opportunities for ecological enhancement.	I	P	+	+	+	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	Semi-improved field (pastoral - for horses). Low ecological value. Opportunities for ecological enhancement.	I	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land at Mossie Road	Low ecological value. Opportunities for ecological enhancement.	I	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Woodlands Industrial Estate	Existing industrial estate. Low ecological value. Scope for ecological enhancement.	I	P	+	+	+	
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	Caravan park which includes Ancient Woodland - though some of this has been damaged through encroachment of the caravan park into this area (i.e. development of lodges).	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
Kingussie								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	Semi-improved fields, species poor, of low ecological value. Scope for enhancement through good design and woodland planting in association with any proposals.	I	P	+	+	+	
C1	Ardoynie Car Park	Existing car park. No ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	
C2	Car Park	Existing car park. No ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	
C3	Am Fasgadh	Grassland - improved and semi-improved (low ecological value). Mature trees on boundary. Which must be retained.	I	P	□	□	□	
C4	Car Park	Mature trees run along the boundary of the site. However, the site's use as a car park needn't affect these.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Council Depot	Improved fields, low ecological value (some potential for breeding waders).	I	P	□	□	□	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The site has mature trees on its boundary. These exist alongside the existing use and should be retained.	I	P	□	□	□	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	Existing caravan park that contains some mature trees. Southern portion of site entirely wooded (but not AWI). This part must be protected from development.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Newtonmore								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	Improved fields, low ecological value (some potential for breeding waders).	I	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Rear of Café	Existing lorry park (hard standing) with some improved pasture. Low ecological value (buildings have some bat roost potential).	I	P	□	□	□	
ED2	Industrial Park	Existing industrial estate - no ecological value. Field on north-side is not developed and comprises of wet grassland and a watercourse. This area must be protected from development and enhanced.	I	P	+	+	+	
TI	Highland Folk Museum	The site is less than 250m from River Spey-Insh Marshes, which is an important wetland. The nature of the proposal means that negative effects are unlikely.	I	P	□	□	□	
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
HI	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	The field is of low ecological value habitat but may have potential to provide foraging/breeding habitat for waders and if taken forward, a survey would be required to assess this at application stage.	I	P	□	□	□	
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	Loss of silage/pasture has a negligible impact, but development of the site will result in tree	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		loss through: crossing of private road for access between fields; and loss of a corner of policy woodland in southern portion of site. The corner of woodland must be removed from the site or avoided. Tree impacts on minor road must be minimised as far as possible and replacement planting included.						
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	Low ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	Existing industrial site, low ecological value. Scope for ecological enhancement through good design.	I	P	+	+	+	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	Existing caravan park - mostly amenity grassland, occasional mature trees. Mature trees must be retained.	I	P	□	□	□	
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	Existing caravan park. There are mature trees throughout the site, particularly on the riverside part.	I	P	□	□	□	
T3	Visitor Gateway	Ranger base, café, car parking. Amenity grassland, "wildflower" meadows, tall ruderal herbs.	I	P	□	□	□	
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	Existing steam railway station. Low ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	Existing caravan park - mostly amenity grassland, occasional mature trees. Mature trees must be retained.	I	P	□	□	□	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	At best semi-improved field. Derelict outbuildings may have bat potential. One mature larch, one mature birch tree.	I	P	□	□	□	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	Agricultural fields, improved. Some potential for breeding waders. Otherwise low ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	
H3	Kindrochit Court	Existing buildings - bat potential. Mature trees within the site.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
H4	Chapel Brae 2	Side from the woodland, which could be avoided, the only potential constraint could be waxcap fungi – a visit to the site in September/October could indicate if waxcap fungi are present (though ideally a couple of seasons are needed to assess this adequately). Larch bolete observed (common species) indicating that soils are intact. The grassland is attractive in that it is flower rich, but the species composition is of common, widespread species typical of semi-improved neutral sites. The habitat is of local value only. Not enough structural diversity to be of significant interest	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		for rare invertebrates. Potential for reptiles (common lizard) but a small population if any. There is the potential for negative effects on the River Dee SAC (there appears to be watercourse connectivity to the SAC so pollution may affect water quality.						
ED1	Ambulance Station	Derelict workshops and "Braemar depot". Bat roost potential. Some tall ruderal herbs and scrub. Mitigation and compensation should be possible.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	The Mews	Existing tourist facility - buildings and square. Buildings have bat potential. Mitigation and compensation should be possible.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	The site should pose no significant ecological problems as long as existing trees are retained and impacts to the burn/drain on north side of the site are avoided. A HRA may be required as the site has connectivity to the River Dee	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		SAC via the burn but if impacts are minimised there should be no Likely Significant Effect.						
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	Some concern because River Spey GWDTE SAC is less 250m to the North. Care will need to be taken during construction phase.	I	P	□	□	□	
H2	Crannich Park	Site includes semi-natural wetland habitats, including those associated with deep peat.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
ED1	Land at Railway Station	Mosaic of semi-natural habitats, formed since the site was abandoned. Early successional woodland, grassland, heathland, woodland (including AWI) and bare ground habitat. Some concern because River Spey GWDTE SAC is less 250m away. Care will need to be taken during construction phase.	I	P	--	--	--	
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	Existing petrol station and garage. Low ecological value (including low bat potential).	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	The old sawmill site itself has only recently been cleared and become disused and as such has had little time to develop ecological value. The western blocks beside the A9 have been derelict for longer and have had more time to develop scrub and young trees and successional vegetation. Invertebrate surveys would be required for these areas but not for the sawmill area. The woodland belts that intersect the site (shown on cover sheet) should be removed from the allocation. Significance of effect would depend on outcome of reptile survey. Reptile survey would be required for the whole site. Bat roost assessment and breeding bird assessment required for the remaining buildings within the sawmill site.	I	P	?	?	?	
TI	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	The existing theme park is surrounded by Ancient Woodland of high quality. Semi-natural Scots pine woodland with occasional stands of lodgepole. Good ground flora. Likely to support protected mammals (pine marten, red squirrel). Supports wood ants. Flora and fungi interest likely to be high.	I	P	--	--	--	
Cromdale								
HI	Kirk Road	Agricultural - arable. Low ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Auchroisk Park	Rough grassland, semi-improved and species poor. Low ecological value.	I	P	☐	☐	☐	
EDI	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	Existing workshops/out buildings. Bat potential, but mitigation and compensation should be possible.	I	P	☐	☐	☐	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	Grassland - pastoral, with clumps of Scots pine. Wet/marshy area in centre of site where field drains collect. Previous Phase I Habitat Survey found grassland to be species rich (was grazed by horses at the time). Potential to support invertebrates such as <i>Andrena marginata</i> (CNAP species) but further survey work needed to determine. Some concern that River Dulnain (R. Spey GWDTE SAC) is less than 250m to the North.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
H2	Land adjacent to A938	Partially wooded with Scots pine and broadleaves, remainder is tall ruderal herbs. Some concern that River Dulnain (R. Spey GWDTE SAC) is less than 250m to the south.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
EDI	Dulnain Garage	Existing garage - no ecological value (low bat potential).	I	P	☐	☐	☐	
Kincraig								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land Opposite School	Pasture (species poor) with cluster of mature trees in south-east corner. Wet/marshy grassland habitat in low lying areas. Good design to avoid impacts to wet habitat and trees. Some concern that River Dulnain (R. Spey GWDTE SAC) is less than 250m to the North.	I	P	☐	☐	☐	
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	Existing garage - no ecological value (low bat potential). Mature trees on southern boundary to be retained. Potential drainage to Insh Marches.	I	P	☐	☐	☐	
Nethy Bridge								
HI	Land at Lynstock Crescent	<p>Agricultural ground currently grazed by cattle, good stocking density which allows retention of species rich margins to the field. Pine marten, otter, water vole, red squirrel, badgers within 200m of the site boundary. Potentially a species rich grassland supporting a good range of plants and fungi, 30% of the site within the 1:200 flood envelope.</p> <p>Required to provide further information: NVC, Protected species survey, fungi survey. The site adjoins the River Nethy which is a tributary of the River Spey SAC.</p>	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Lettoch Road	Historically grazed field which is regenerating with scots Pine, broom, alder and birch. This site is within the riparian corridor of the River Nethy which is frequently used by otters, The river is also a tributary of the River Spey SAC. Daubenton's bats and riverine birds including dipper. Extended Phase I including assessment for potential to support protected species should be undertaken on site and for a 200m radius around the site concentrating on the river corridor.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	Grassland - pasture. Potential for breeding waders (local area known to be important for waders). Could also be knock on effects to neighbouring fields if this site is developed. Mitigation would be required.	I	P	□	□	□	
H2	Lecht Drive	Grassland - pasture. Potential for breeding waders (local area known to be important for waders). Could also be knock on effects to neighbouring fields if this site is developed. Mitigation would be required.	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Garage North East	Existing garage, hard standing, building (low bat potential). Tree planting (mostly Scots pine, some sycamore, spruce) on roadside approximately 50% of site. Poor woodland understory, relatively low ecological value.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED2	Land by A939	Existing developed area (fire station, council depot) is of low ecological value. Remaining open space - pastoral fields - likely to be high value for waders.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
TI	Land to the South West	The site is currently used as a campsite with associated landscaping which is designed to support biodiversity.	I	P	□	□	□	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	Former school - potential to support bats and breeding birds. Mitigation & compensation should be possible.	I	P	□	□	□	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	Grassland - pastoral. Likely to be wet in places. Potential for waders. Otherwise low ecological value.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Garage Site	Existing petrol station. Some bat potential in building, but otherwise no ecological value.	I	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		Scope for ecological enhancement with good design.						
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	Development of this site would result in the loss of mature semi-natural woodland of ecological value. Mitigation restricted as site is entirely wooded, off-site compensation would be required to replace lost habitat.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Former Steading	The main ecological constraints are bats primarily, and also breeding hirundines (swallows, swifts and house martins). Retain mature trees on NE side.	I	P	□	□	□	
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	There are mature trees on site and it is partially occupied by ancient woodland, though this is heavily used by visitors to the area and customers of the caravan site. It is also located within an area of high sensitivity, being surrounded by the Cairngorms SAC. The use of the site is already well established.	I	P	□	□	□	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	There are mature trees on site and it is partially occupied by ancient woodland. The majority of the site is however already built and is heavily used by its current use. The site is	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		also located within an area of high sensitivity, being surrounded by the Cairngorms SAC. Additional effects, positive or negative, are unlikely.						
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
TI	Camping Site	The site includes Ancient Woodland, though the quality of this is affected by the site's use as a camping site.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	The site has been subject to commercial forestry management and has a mix of habitats – dense thicket stage commercial spruce, wet heath/grass, planted Scots pine, natural regenerating birch, willow and pine plus scrub and tall ruderal vegetation. The site has wet habitats and watercourses which could make development of parts of the site tricky in terms of drainage. On drier parts of the site, there is a mix of semi-natural woodland habitats ranging from mature Scots pine to scrub and regenerating broadleaves and pine. The site offers habitat for a wide range of protected species and would also require assessment for Ground Water dependent Terrestrial	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		Ecosystems. The site is also in close proximity to the River Mashie, which is a tributary to River Spey SAC.						

SEA Issue / Topic

Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora

SEA Objective(s):

6b Maintain and improve the sustainable management of woodland for multiple benefits

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Maintain or improve the capacity of woodland to sequester and store carbon.
- Enhance the ecological functioning of woodland at a landscape scale.
- Avoid the loss of ancient woodland and veteran trees.
- Protect and enhance the environmental services woodland provide (e.g. flood alleviation and pollution mitigation).
- Protect and promote the recreational, cultural, landscape and economic value of woodland.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assents, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
H1	Dalfaber 1	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Dalfaber 2	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site contains TPOs, mosaic and riparian woodland. Some of this is likely to be lost through development.	I	P	-	-	-	Ecological appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on woodlands. Policy 4, which applies to all development seeks to reduce any negative effects on biodiversity as a whole, with Policy 4.4 specifically seeking to avoid the loss of woodland habitats, including areas identified on the AWI.
M2	Laurel Bank	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	Good habitats of birch woodland and heath.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Granish	Around 15% of the site is identified as ancient woodland.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	Around 50% of the site is wooded. Of this woodland, around 50% has been identified as being ancient.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
Ballater								
H1	Monaltrie Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
CI	Former School Site	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Ballater Business Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
T1	Ballater Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
Grantown-on-Spey								
H1	Beachen Court	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
H2	Castle Road	There are patches of woodland and mature trees on site.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
CI	Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C3	Land at Mossie Road	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Woodlands Industrial Estate	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	Around 15% of the site is identified as ancient woodland.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
Kingussie								
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C1	Ardoynie Car Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C2	Car Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C3	Am Fasgadh	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C4	Car Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Council Depot	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Newtonmore								
H1	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Rear of Café	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Industrial Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Highland Folk Museum	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The site contains two large areas identified as Ancient woodland. This equates to around 20% of the site area.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
T3	Visitor Gateway	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae 1	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
H3	Kindrochit Court	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	There are patches of woodland and mature trees on site. Some concern for River Dee GWDTE SAC (Clunie Water) which is <250m to the West.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
ED1	Ambulance Station	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	
ED2	The Mews	No site specific effects.	I	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Crannich Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Land at Railway Station	Around 50% of the site is identified a ancient woodland.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	Around 95% of the site is identified on the Ancient Woodland Inventory, though most of this is already currently use by Landmark Forest Park, while the extended area is of relatively low value.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Auchroisk Park	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dalnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Dulnain Garage	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Baldow Smiddy	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lettoch Road	This historically grazed field is regenerating with scots Pine, broom, alder and birch now present.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore M1.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
H2	Lecht Drive	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED1	Garage North East	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ED2	Land by A939	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T1	Land to the South West	Loss of trees for pitches has already been compensated. Woodland is of limited ecological value.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rural Settlement								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Calvine								
CI	Old School	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EDI	Garage Site	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	Although not listed on the index, development of this site would result in the loss of mature semi-natural woodland of ecological value.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.
EDI	Former Steading	No site specific effects.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	Around 20% of the site is identified a ancient woodland. However, the nature of the existing use and purpose of the allocation means negative effects are unlikely.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	Around 10% of the site is identified a ancient woodland. However, the nature of the existing use and purpose of the allocation means negative effects are unlikely.	I	P	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Inverdruie and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	Around 80% of the site is identified as semi-natural ancient woodland om the inventory.	I	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	The site has been subject to commercial forestry management and has a mix of habitats – dense thicket stage commercial spruce, wet heath/grass, planted Scots pine, natural regenerating birch, willow and pine plus scrub and tall ruderal vegetation.	I	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore MI.

SEA Issue / Topic

Landscape and Cultural Heritage

SEA Objective(s):

7 Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the National Park's landscape and cultural and historic heritage

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Protect and enhance the National Park's special landscape qualities.
- Work towards creating landscapes that are ecologically functional.
- Minimise the loss of wildness.
- Reduce light pollution.
- Value, protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment and its assets.
- To promote high quality design based on a comprehensive understanding of landscape character and distinctiveness.
- Protect and enhance townscape and respect the existing pattern, form and setting of settlements.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, material assets, biodiversity, fauna and flora, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
H1	Dalfaber 1	Former farm steading and associated fields. Important woodland which 'buffers' this site from nearby extensive housing development. High quality views to Cairngorm massif.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
H2	Dalfaber 2	Remnant woodland with good semi-open understory. Edge of settlement location. Could have some minor adverse effects. The site contains a record on the Sites and Monuments Record, described as cropmarks from an unknown period.	N	P	-	-	-	Landscape appraisals have been carried out and have been used to inform the choice of allocations and the mitigation that may be applied to limit any negative effects they may have on the special qualities of the National Park. As the overarching strategy for policy within the National Park the NPPP offers a means of mitigation that would need to be incorporated within the Proposed LDP. NPPP Policy 1.3 seeks to ensure that the management of the National Park results in the conservation and

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>enhancement of the National Park's special qualities.</p> <p>Within the LDP itself, Policy 5 aims to ensure that the impact of development on landscape will be limited and where possible contribute to its enhancement. Additionally Policy 4 and Policy 8 offer synergistic effects as habitat mitigation and compensation and the protection and creation of open spaces can contribute positively to landscape quality.</p> <p>With respect to the historic environment, Policy 9 provides the primary means of avoiding negative effects, with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 9.1 dealing with the potential effects on listed buildings;

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 9.2 dealing with the potential effects on cultural and historic designations such as scheduled monuments, inventory battlefield sites and designed gardens and landscapes ➤ 9.3 dealing with the potential effects on conservation areas; and ➤ 9.4 dealing with the potential effects on all other heritage assets, including those identified on the Sites and Monuments and Records. <p>Policy 3 also plays an important role in not only avoiding negative effects, but also delivering enhancements. Specifically:</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 3.1 requires all developments to meet the six qualities of successful places; ➤ 3.2 requires all major developments to be subject to masterplans or development briefs, meaning that opportunities can be taken at a strategic level to manage the effects of development on landscape quality and heritage assets ➤ 3.3 requires development to meet a variety of tests, including that development be sympathetic to the traditional pattern and character of the surrounding area, use materials and landscaping that complement the setting of

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>the development and improve or add to existing public and amenity open space.</p> <p>Where necessary, landscaping requirements have been highlighted in the Site information of the LDP.</p>
MI	Aviemore Highland Resort	<p>The site is dominated by its existing use, with the existing hotel buildings intruding into the landscape and visible from many receptors in the area. There are areas within the site that have mature trees that contribute positively to the site's sense of place, while areas of woodland bound the site on its western edge. The centre of the site is occupied by previously developed land that is currently used for overflow parking and is of low landscape quality. There are several sites on the Sites and Monuments Record within the site's boundary, namely:</p> <p>➤ The Aviemore Centre</p>	N	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Aviemore Centre - Artificial Ski Slope ➤ The Aviemore Centre – Swimming Pool ➤ The Aviemore Centre - Ice Rink ➤ The Aviemore Centre- Freedom Inn ➤ The Aviemore Centre – Go Cart Track ➤ The Aviemore Centre – District Heating Plant ➤ The Aviemore Centre – Aviemore Chalets Hotel ➤ The Aviemore Centre – Post House Hotel ➤ The Four Seasons Hotel <p>Consideration needs to be given to the site's heritage assets, however it is likely that the redevelopment of the site could result in improvements to the area's landscape.</p>						
M2	Laurel Bank	Site on elevated west side of Grampian road, includes Laurel bank, Victorian villa and gardens. The elevation gives some fine views to cairngorm massif. Design and layout to reflect orientation of other buildings on west side Grampian road. The site has potential to help people 'engage with their landscape, car parking	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		on the site should be restricted in favour of other uses. Significance of effect would depend on nature of proposal.						
C1	Land on Dalfaber Drive	Part-developed site (air cadets building), remainder of site regenerating woodland (some quite large trees pine, birch, rowan), rank grassland/RB willow herb and broom. Providing the larger trees can be retained and amenity of nearby residents protected the site would be suitable for development. Significance of effect would depend on nature of proposal.	N	P	□	□	□	
C2	Former School Playing Fields	Site is remnant playground that floods regularly. The former school is recorded on the Sites and Monuments Record. Any potential uses are unlikely to have adverse effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	a wedge of heath and open woodland that penetrates into heart of the settlement. Borders both mainline railway and strathspey railway. The open woodland experience from these railway lines should be retained	N	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	existing industrial estate, no specific landscape effects	N	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	Existing industrial estate of little landscape value. The site is however adjacent to Aviemore Railway Station Signal Box, which is a Category B listed building and contains within its boundary, while within its boundary, the Myrtlefield Shopping Centre is listed on the Sites and Monuments Record.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED3	Granish	Existing industrial estate, no specific landscape effects, though development should ensure that trees are retained to ensure that development is shielded from surrounding views.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	Owing to the site's scale the effects of the proposal are likely to be significantly adverse in the short to medium term. The site is close to Scheduled Monument SM9337 (Rothiemurchus, palisaded enclosure to NW of Dell Farm) and will need to take account of its setting and the possibly of other archaeological remains existing within its development area.	N	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	This site is highly visible in views from the north. Strong green structure throughout site necessary to conserve and enhance the character and SLQs of the strath and to avoid development appearing detached from	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		settlement. The NW area of species rich grassland and parkland style planting contributes to the setting of Monaltrie house and the diversity of accessible green spaces along the settlement edge.						
CI	Former School Site	The old school buildings, which are now in a derelict state and on the Buildings at Risk Register, are Category C listed buildings. There is however scope for redevelopment consistent with conservation area designation and character of former school.	N	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	Existing industrial estate. Scope for enhancement with good design. Retain roadside trees.	N	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	Existing caravan park. Opportunities for landscape and flood enhancement by native tree planting.	N	P	□	□	□	
Grantown-on-Spey								
H1	Beachen Court	Pastoral area with some areas species rich, small stand of aspens along dry stane dyke. Scope for enhancement with good design	N	P	+	+	+	
H2	Castle Road	Open grassland site immediately adjacent to the settlement, edged by the hospital and scattered birch woodland and mature pine plantations. A continuation of the open pasture	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		fields that run round this side of Grantown to Seaforth Ave. along the foot of the steeply rising wooded slopes of Dreggie. Site overlooked from these slopes and old railway, but otherwise quite enclosed. Scope for partial development of site without serious impacts on landscape character.						
C1	Mossie Road	Site is characterised by a pasture field, easy access site and adjacent to play area. Offers scope for community development, built development and/or green infrastructure without impacting upon settlement edge.	N	P	□	□	□	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	Site is characterised by a pasture field, easy access site and adjacent to development area. Offers scope for community development, built development and/or green infrastructure without impacting upon settlement edge.	N	P	□	□	□	
C3	Land at Mossie Road	Allocated for community use allotments.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Woodlands Industrial Estate	Existing industrial estate associated with former railway line and station. There are two Sites and Monuments Records within the site's boundary, namely Grantown-On-Spey Railhead Military Depot and the west station. There is	N	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		scope for enhancement tree planting throughout the area.						
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	The site occupies a prominent location between the edge of the settlement and the old railway line. Mature pines on the face of the slope below the railway line are an important part of the backdrop and setting for the town and contribute to its special landscape qualities. The old railway is popular for local recreation and is a LDR, views from here look directly down on to the development site.	N	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
Kingussie								
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	Site is characterised by semi-improved fields. Landscape character to be conserved and enhanced over time, by including a strong woodland infrastructure as part of any proposals	N	P	□	□	□	
C1	Ardovnie Car Park	Ardvonie car park. Potential to enhance quality of car park and surrounds - main central public car park	N	P	□	□	□	
C2	Car Park	Mart car park. No site specific landscape effects	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C3	Am Fasgadh	<p>C3 west of railway - grassland and trees. C3 east of railway - industrial/waste site. Mature trees to be retained. Significant potential to enhance landscape quality and access experience. There are several sites on the National Monuments Record within the site's boundary, which are all associated with its former use as the Highland Folk Museum, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highway Folk Museum ➤ Pitmain House, which is a Category C listed building ➤ MacRobert House, which is a Category C listed building <p>The site is also adjacent to St. Columba's Church, St. Columba's Church Burial Ground and Gate Piers, which are also Category B listed buildings.</p>	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
C4	Car Park	The site's use and proposed retention as a car park means that there will be little negative effects, particularly as the surrounding trees and buildings shield it from the surrounding landscape.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Council Depot	Transport Scotland depot, hard standings, large nissen sheds, open storage. Opportunities for enhancing this site especially in views from the main railway line	N	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	Site is occupied by a garage and hard standing. Opportunities for enhancing this site especially in views from the main railway line.	N	P	+	+	+	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	Trees within and immediately south of the caravan site are key to reducing visual impact from surrounding areas and from access routes. These trees and related ground flora should be retained and supplemented where possible. The Clubhouse is on the Sites and Monuments Record.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
Newtonmore								
H1	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	Open strath. Improved grassland fields. This openness emphasises the edge of the settlement. Site is prominent in views from the B9150, the main railway line and station road. Housing in this area occupies the raised river terrace and is set amongst mature trees. A strong landscape structure of woodland planting and open space would be necessary to screen development, create a new settlement edge, reduce adverse impacts on the character	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		and experience of the Newtonmore, and protect the setting.						
ED1	Rear of Café	Existing lorry park, recycling area and adjacent pasture. Proposals here should include tree planting to screen development and strengthen the immediate settlement edge.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED2	Industrial Park	Existing industrial site and part of adjacent field. Field very visible from main railway line. Industrial/economic type development in field would adversely affect the character and experience of this side of Newtonmore. Development outwith the current industrial estate would need to be accompanied by substantial areas of tree planting to screen buildings/storage areas etc. and create a high quality landscape setting.	N	P	□	□	□	
TI	Highland Folk Museum	Site is currently in use and this use is unlikely to result in negative effects. The sites use means that it contains many historic buildings, a number of which are on the Sites and Monuments Record, though these are of course there to be preserved.	N	P	□	□	□	
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	The site is located outwit the settlement but close to an existing group of houses. It is a large field within the designed landscape type area. Any development ought to be closely related to the existing housing to give it proper context and limit the intrusion into the landscape.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	<p>This is a prominent site on the entrance to the village. The visual settlement boundary is clearly defined by the wall and the trees, including the avenue. This proposal would therefore be beyond this line. Building on the southern area is likely to intrude into the view across the designed landscape. This is an important view for the area and establishes an important relationship between the distinctive designed landscape and the village.</p> <p>In addition the duplication of the access road means two parallel tracks in close proximity and would diminish the importance of the avenue, a key feature of the historic landscape. Cutting across the avenue would also reduce the integrity of this feature.</p>	N	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	This site has planning permission. Development should take account of the requirements of that permission to minimise adverse effects.	N	P	□	□	□	See planning permission 2019/0263/DET
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	An existing light industry site e.g. salt storage. Possibility for minor landscape enhancements.	N	P	□	□	□	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	Within an Inventory Garden and Designed Landscape. This parkland and woodland clumps make major contribution to Special Landscape Qualities of the area. Elements of the original 17th century layout are still discernible and should remain. There is scope for reducing the landscape and visual impact of caravans including replacement planting of over-mature trees and woodland.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The site is an existing caravan park and chalets. Mature trees and riparian trees on this site contribute to the special landscape qualities of the settlement and essential to screen and reduce landscape and visual impact. To avoid negative effects there should be no loss of trees. The site is adjacent to the Clach Na H'lobairt, Standing Stone Scheduled Monument (SM730) and contains within its boundary a cairn on the Sites and Monuments Record.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T3	Visitor Gateway	Site contains a ranger base and visitor centre, car park and amenity grassland, a few mature trees of landscape significance. The School And Schoolhouse, which is in use and in good condition, is a Category C listed building.	N	P	□	□	□	
Boat of Garten								
EDI	The Steam Railway Station	Existing steam railway station. There are a number of Category C listed buildings in the vicinity, namely the Boat of Garten Railway Station, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Former Station Master's House, ➤ North Signal Box, ➤ South Signal Box and Footbridge. These are in use and in good condition. Opportunities for enhancement. Retain excellent views to Cairngorm Mountains.	N	P	□	□	□	
TI	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	Existing caravan park - mostly amenity grassland, occasional mature trees. Visible from A95. Existing mature trees to be retained and augmented.	N	P	□	□	□	
Braemar								
HI	Chapel Brae I	In NSA. Site already partially developed (large larch trees have been retained). Site and	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		mature trees in particular, important in views from Linn of Dee road.						
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	open pasture fields, development would be highly visible and encroach on the relatively undeveloped character of the strath and the setting of the town.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
H3	Kindrochit Court	large trees on and around this site are critical to the character and experience of the special landscape qualities of Braemar.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
H4	Chapel Brae 2	Site broadly within the village. Along Chapel Brae there is a notable sequence of low density cottages and villas with open spaces at intervals. The views to and through these spaces established a strong character for the street.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
ED1	Ambulance Station	Derelict timber and tin buildings and a few regenerating trees. Design of development here key to maintain and enhance settlement character and Special Landscape Qualities within the NSA.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED2	The Mews	The Mews is an existing tourist facility and the buildings on site, which are in use and in good condition are listed on the Sites and Monuments Record. The telephone box that exist on site is a Category B listed building. The	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		Design to respect scale and character of traditional streetscape of this settlement in the National Scenic Area.						
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	Development on this site would breach the containing edge of the settlement and impact on the sense of arrival from the south. There is a distinct knoll within this site which is an important feature in the wider setting of the town. Any development, permanent or temporary, on this knoll would be highly visible and fragment the settlement edge. The western and more elevated part of the site should be removed. All trees should be retained and augmented with additional planting.	N	P	-	-	-	
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	Significance of woodland in providing a visual backdrop and setting for the settlement is key. Design and layout must build-in stewardship of existing woodland and creation of new such that the significance of the woodland in the landscape and experience of the settlement is maintained.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
H2	Crannich Park	Significance of woodland in providing a visual backdrop and setting for the settlement is key. Design and layout must build-in stewardship of	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		existing woodland and creation of new such that the significance of the woodland in the landscape and experience of the settlement is maintained.						
ED1	Land at Railway Station	Site of former railway sidings. Made up ground over 50% of site with limited scrub. Rest of site is mature woodland. Siding area is higher than woodland with a steep slope between the two. Few sensitives, but retention of the woodland is a high priority. Therefore reducing the site to limit it to just the extent of higher flat area and avoiding all woodland is necessary. The site is adjacent to Carr-Bridge Station, which along with the platform and other features, is a Category B listed building.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	This is a key site in respect of the experience of the pack horse bridge, which is on the Sites and Monuments Record and a Category B listed building, and the river, and also the main street. The nearby Carr-Bridge Hotel and current road bridge are also on the Sites and Monuments Record. There is scope to enhance this experience.	N	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	Site is large brownfield site on the edge of Carr-Bridge. Previous sawmill structures have	N	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		mostly been removed with the hard standings left in place. Surrounded on three sides with woodland with some trees lines retained on eastern part of the site. Light industrial and business units would be appropriate considering the context of the existing units in the vicinity. Height of units and peripheral planting ought to be considered in a development brief. Development likely to result in improvement to landscape qualities of the area.						
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	Development constrained by the importance of the woodland in providing a visual backdrop and setting to the settlement and a well-used recreational resource. The Landmark Visitor Centre is on the Sites and Monuments Record.	N	P	-	-	-	
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	The site consists of an open arable field, gently undulating. Well-designed housing, associated landscaping and communal greenspace/access could help to reduce fragmented form of the settlement.	N	P	+	+	+	
H2	Auchroisk Park	Part-developed site and grassland. Well-designed housing, associated landscaping and	N	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		communal greenspace/access could help to reduce fragmented form of the settlement.						
EDI	Rosebankd Cottage and surrounding land	Unattractive derelict site close to the river. Potential for landscape enhancement.	N	P	+	+	+	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	Limited development. The pasture area offers some scope to extend the built form of the settlement, but trees, both in eastern part of the site and along roadside, are key to the character and quality of the village setting and the sense of arrival on the southern approach.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
H2	Land adjacent to A938	partially wooded site (pine/spruce plantation), may be some potential to manage woodland and create a small development site without impacting on the setting of the village.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
EDI	Dulnain Garage	The site is occupied by an existing garage. 1930s era building a notable feature on the main road through the village and is recorded on the Sites and Monuments Record. The allocation does not propose any changes to this building and offers protection for its current use.	N	P	□	□	□	
Kincraig								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land Opposite School	Site and plot layout should respect and respond to natural features. Retain trees and prominent knoll in north end of site and respect wetland areas.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	The site is occupied by an existing garage and hard standing and is adjacent to the bridge over the Bladow burn, which is on the Sites and Monuments Record. Trees on southern boundary contribute to landscape character of area, retain and supplement.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
Nethy Bridge								
HI	Land at Lynstock Crescent	This site is on the open farmland at the south eastern edge of Nethy. The contrast between woodland-edged settlement and open pasture would be diminished by development. This farmland adds diversity to the landscape surrounding Nethybridge and provides an open foreground across which great views of the surrounding hills, mountain and moorland can be experienced. Magnificent mountains towering over moorland and strath, landscapes both cultural and natural, a landscape of layers, attractive and contrasting textures and colours (woodland, pasture, hills and mountains), grand panoramas and framed views. These open fields	N	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		give the public the opportunity to look across the landscape and experience all of these special landscape qualities. Such open views from the straths and low-lying parts of the Park are becoming increasingly rare and where possible should be protected.						
H2	Lettoch Road	The site is contained between areas of woodland, the river and the road and housing immediately to the south. There are views across the site from the public road and nearby residential areas towards the Cairngorm mountains Limiting the number of buildings on the site to two in a step back/step forward arrangement and to one and a half stories would allow views to be maintained and space for garden ground. Trees planted on the lower ground would contribute to flood control and over time provide a treed backdrop to housing and compensate for loss of regenerating trees on river terrace.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	Linear field area adjacent to planned form of settlement. The long eastern edge of the village is open with little containment and very visible from east. Layout, design and access to reflect	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		existing pattern of settlement. Planting to east to create shelter and strengthen settlement edge in wider landscape.						
H2	Lecht Drive	Linear field area adjacent to planned form of settlement. The long eastern edge of the village is open with little containment and very visible from east. Layout, design and access to reflect existing pattern of settlement. Planting to east to create shelter and strengthen settlement edge in wider landscape.	N	P	□	□	□	
ED1	Garage North East	Opportunities for site enhancement including clearer delineation of functions and site boundaries with additional tree planting linking into the nearby woodland.	N	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Land by A939	Existing developed area (salt depot and fire station) scope for landscape enhancement. Development outwith the settlement edge would alter the linear form of the planned settlement and be very visible from B9008 and A939.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
T1	Land to the South West	Nature of development, which is focused on camping, means impact on wider landscape is likely to be very limited. The landscaping scheme that is currently being implemented is likely to support this. The site contains a site	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		on the Sites and Monuments Record within its boundary, namely a Smithy from an unassigned period.						
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	The site consists of a former school, though the buildings are relatively modern and of little architectural merit. There is scope for redevelopment that will deliver local landscape enhancements.	N	P	+	+	+	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	This site would breach the existing settlement edge which is emphasised by existing mature trees. However given substantial new green infrastructure around the northern side of any development, the settlement form and sense of arrival could be redefined/recreated. Care required not to impinge upon the setting of the distillery.	N	P	□	□	□	
EDI	Garage Site	Site is an existing petrol station that currently detracts from the experience at southern edge of village. There is considerable scope for landscape enhancement.	N	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Dinnet								
H1	Land to East	Development would disrupt the secluded character of the woodland and sense of enclosure which it provides. Development here constrained by the quality and attractiveness of the setting and the robustness of the existing settlement boundary.	N	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.
EDI	Former Steading	There is scope for the retention and enhancement of 18th/19th century farm steading and farm house, which is a Category C listed building, at entrance to Dinnet. Any development to include enhancement of surrounds with substantial planting. Any additional buildings to be designed carefully in relation to the existing building cluster.	N	P	+	+	+	
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	The site is located within one of the most valued landscapes in the Cairngorms. It is however well shielded by surrounding woodland and the proposed use is unlikely to result in significant negative effects.	N	P	□	□	□	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	The site is located within one of the most valued landscapes in the Cairngorms, with views out onto the Mountains. The site is	N	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		however already largely developed and opportunities for significant new structures extremely limited. The centre itself is on the Sites and Monuments Record. Significant adverse effects are considered unlikely.						
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
TI	Camping Site	The site sits within a high quality landscape characterised by semi-natural native woodland. However, the proposed use is not an intrusive one and the trees screen the site from the surrounding area.	N	P	☐	☐	☐	
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	Site is away from village but close to small group of forestry worker houses and close to wolf tracks. Woodland and wet grassland is common in the surrounding areas. The site is generally enclosed by the vegetation however this is variable and being on the floor of the strath is very visible from surrounding high point. Dun da Lamh (Scheduled Monument SM4361) is close by and the impact upon the view from there is potentially significant depending on layout and design. The site also	N	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H2.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		contains the following sites on the Sites and Monuments Record within its boundary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Achduchil Farmstead ➤ Achduchil sawmill ➤ Achduchil Crags 						

SEA Issue / Topic

Population and Human Health

SEA Objective(s):

8a Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities.

SEA Sub Objective

- Maintain the recreational value of the Cairngorms National Park.
- Promote and maintain opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.
- Encourage walking or cycling as an alternative means of transportation.
- Empower people to experience, learn about and share the Cairngorms National Park's historic, cultural and natural heritage.
- Promote the improvement and maintenance of social and physical environments / facilities that provide opportunities to enhance health and wellbeing.

Significant Interrelationships

Landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	<p>The desire to co-locate housing with other community facilities has been a key consideration in the formation of the LDP's overall Strategy as it promotes walking and cycling and provides easy access to health facilities. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed to locate development in the most sustainable locations, which limit the need to travel by elsewhere to get involved in community interactions.</p> <p>Healthy lifestyles are indirectly prompted through Policy 3, and in particular Policy 3.1, which requires all development to meet the six qualities of successful</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								<p>places, including the need to be safe and pleasant, welcoming and easy to move around and beyond.</p> <p>Policy 8 also promotes healthy lifestyles through encouraging the development and protection of recreational facilities and other open spaces, both formal and informal.</p> <p>Policies 4 and 5 both have elements that offer synergistic effects as good biodiversity mitigation and landscaping schemes can double up as recreational spaces and encourage people to engage in their surrounding environment. More practically, Policy 11 offers the means of delivering these.</p>

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Dalfaber 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
MI	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
M2	Laurel Bank	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
CI	Land on Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
ED3	Granish	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	The effects will depend on the facilities available in the new settlement. There may be negative effects early in the site's early phases, as residents need to travel to Aviemore to access facilities, however these may reduce in the future as new facilities are developed in An Camas Mòr and more opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of local people, visitors and communities created.	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Ballater								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Monaltrie Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
CI	Former School Site	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
Grantown-on-Spey								
H1	Beachen Court	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
H2	Castle Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
CI	Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C3	Land at Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
TI	Grantown Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
Kingussie								
HI	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
CI	Ardoynie Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
C2	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
C3	Am Fasgadh	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
C4	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Council Depot	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
TI	Kingussie Golf Club	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Newtonmore								
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Rear of Café	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED2	Industrial Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
TI	Highland Folk Museum	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which does not support everyday walking and cycling.	R	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED I	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Blair Castle Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
T3	Visitor Gateway	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Boat of Garten								
ED1	The Steam Railway Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Braemar								
H1	Chapel Brae I	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
H3	Kindrochit Court	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
H4	Chapel Brae 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Ambulance Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	The Mews	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Carr - Bridge								
H1	Carr Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Crannich Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
TI	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Cromdale								
H1	Kirk Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
H2	Auchroisk Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Dulnain Bridge								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Land west of play area	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Dulnain Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
ED1	Baldow Smiddy	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
H2	Lettoch Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
H2	Lecht Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Garage North East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED2	Land by A939	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Land to the South West	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
Dalwhinnie								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
HI	Land by garage	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Garage Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, encouraging walking and cycling and promoting opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Former Steading	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
Glenmore								
T1	Glenmore Camp Site	The sites use as a campsite means that it provides an excellent location for people to access the outdoors. It therefore promotes opportunities for walking and cycling and enables people to easily enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.	R	P	+	+	+	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	The protection of the site's use as an outdoor education facility means that its ability to deliver benefits for health and wellbeing is maintained and possible enhanced.	R	P	+	+	+	
Inverdrue and Cowlumbidge								
T1	Camping Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may not encourage walking and cycling or promote opportunities	R	P				See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles.						
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which does not support everyday walking and cycling.	R	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

SEA Issue / Topic

Population and Human Health

SEA Objective(s):

8b Support vibrant, safe and healthy communities.

SEA Sub-Objectives

- Ensure the population and household growth is accommodated in appropriate locations.
- Ensure a suitable affordable housing stock is available to meet needs.
- Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions.
- Promote the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups.
- Redress imbalances of inequality, deprivation and exclusion.
- Provide easy access to high quality facilities and services.
- Ensure that adequate healthcare premises are provided throughout the National Park.
- Reduce burden of ill-health in the population.
- Reduce the causes of accidents.
- Ensure the quality of the built environment complements the high quality natural environment.

Significant Interrelationships

Climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assents, biodiversity, fauna and flora, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health.

Assessor(s):

Dan Harris

Date of Assessment:

13/11/2017, 14/11/2017, 15/11/2017, 08/08/2018, 23/11/2018, 26/11/2018 and 27/11/2018.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Strategic Centres								
Aviemore								
HI	Dalfaber I	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	The desire to co-locate housing with other community facilities has been a key consideration in the formation of the LDP's overall Strategy. Policies 1 and 2 have been designed to locate development in the most sustainable locations, which limit the need to travel by elsewhere to get involved in community interactions. Policies 3, 4, 5, 9 and 11 all have elements that will help mitigate many of the effects of the site on the SEA Objective. In Particular Policy 3.1 requires all development to meet the six qualities of successful places, which requires development to be safe and pleasant, welcoming and easy to move around and beyond, all of which can contribute positively towards enabling people, to engage with their environment

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
								and those they share it with. This is supported by Policy 3.3, which requires development to add to excising public and amenity space and maintain and maximise all opportunities for responsible outdoor access.
H2	Dalfaber 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
M1	Aviemore Highland Resort	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion. Furthermore, the site already contains numerous facilities that are open to the public, such as the swimming pool and play park.	R	P	+	+	+	
M2	Laurel Bank	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
CI	Land on Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.						
C2	Former School Playing Fields	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
C3	Land South of Dalfaber Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Dalfaber Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Myrtlefield Industrial Estate	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Granish	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ACM	An Camas Mòr	The effects will depend on the facilities available in the new settlement. There may be negative effects early in the site's early phases, as	R	P	?	?	?	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		residents need to travel to Aviemore to access facilities, however these may reduce in the future as new facilities are developed in An Camas Mòr and more opportunities for social interaction created.						
Ballater								
HI	Monaltrie Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
CI	Former School Site	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Ballater Business Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
TI	Ballater Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Grantown-on-Spey								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Beachen Court	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Castle Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
C1	Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
C2	Strathspey Railway extension	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C3	Land at Mossie Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Woodlands Industrial Estate	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Grantown Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Kingussie								
H1	Land between Ardbroilach Road and Crag an Darach	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
C1	Ardoynie Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
C2	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
C3	Am Fasgadh	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
C4	Car Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
ED1	Council Depot	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	McCormack's Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Kingussie Golf Club	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Newtonmore								
HI	Land between Perth Road and Station Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Rear of Café	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Industrial Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T1	Highland Folk Museum	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Intermediate Settlements								
Blair Atholl								
H1	Land between Bridge of Tilt and Old Bridge of Tilt	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, local facilities and housing which does not support community interactions or cohesion.	R	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Land Opposite Tilt Hotel	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
H3	Land north of Old Orchard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Blair Atholl Saw Mill Yard	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Blair Castle Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
		facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.						
T2	Blair Atholl Caravan Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
T3	Visitor Gateway	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Boat of Garten								
EDI	The Steam Railway Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Boat of Garten Caravanning and Camping Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Braemar								
HI	Chapel Brae I	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	St Andrew's Terrace	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
H3	Kindrochit Court	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
H4	Chapel Brae 2	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
ED1	Ambulance Station	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	The Mews	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Braemar Caravan Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
Carr - Bridge								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Carr Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
H2	Crannich Park	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED1	Land at Railway Station	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
ED2	Carr-Bridge Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED3	Former Saw Mill	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
T1	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Cromdale								

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H1	Kirk Road	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
H2	Auchroisk Park	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Rosebank Cottage and surrounding land	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Dulnain Bridge								
H1	Land west of play area	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
H2	Land adjacent to A938	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Dulnain Garage	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Kincraig								
H1	Land Opposite School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Baldow Smiddy	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Nethy Bridge								
H1	Land at Lynstock Crescent	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
H2	Lettoch Road	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore H1.
Tomintoul								
H1	Conglass Lane	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
H2	Lecht Drive	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED1	Garage North East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
ED2	Land by A939	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
T1	Land to the South West	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
Rural Settlement								
Calvine								
CI	Old School	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
Dalwhinnie								
HI	Land by garage	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
EDI	Garage Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Dinnet								
HI	Land to East	The site is within easy walking distance of public transport, community and other local facilities and housing, which may encourage community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	+	+	+	
EDI	Former Steading	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Glenmore								
TI	Glenmore Camp Site	The nature of the sites use means that it has little impact on encourage community interactions or cohesion.	R	P	□	□	□	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
					Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	
T2	Glenmore Lodge	The protection of the site's use as an outdoor education facility means that its ability to support community interactions.	R	P	+	+	+	
Inverdrue and Coylumbridge								
T1	Camping Site	The site is within moderate walking distance of public transport, local facilities and housing which may not encourages community interactions and cohesion.	R	P	-	-	-	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.
Laggan								
HI	Land adjacent to Achduchil, Laggan	The site is a considerable walking distance from public transport, local facilities and housing which does not support community interactions or cohesion.	R	P	--	--	--	See Mitigation for Site Aviemore HI.

Appendix 8: Glossary

Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)

If a local authority finds any places where the air quality objectives are not likely to be achieved, it must declare an Air Quality Management Area there. This area could be just one or two st (National Records of Scotland, 2016)reets, or it could be much bigger. Then the local authority will put together a plan to improve the air quality in this area.

Alternatives

These are different ways of achieving the objectives of the plan. Alternatives are also referred to as options.

Baseline

Data that describes issues and condition at the inception of the SEA. Serves as a starting point for measuring impacts, performance etc. and is an important reference for evaluations

Biodiversity

The variety of life on Earth at all its levels, from genes to ecosystems, and the

ecological and evolutionary processes that sustain it.

Biogenetic Reserve

Biogenetic Reserves area designated under the European network of 'living laboratories' representative of various types of natural environment found in Europe.

Buildings at Risk

Buildings, usually of some historic or cultural importance, that are considered to be at risk or under threat and nominated for inclusions on the Buildings at Risk Register.

Built Heritage

Built heritage represents the historical layers of our built environment in places made of brick, plaster, wood, metal and stone. Built heritage includes cathedrals and cemeteries, factories and fences, houses and hotels, museums and markets. It includes areas, precincts and streetscapes. It is the physical evidence of our cultural development.

Carbon Sink

A natural resource that takes in and stores more carbon than it releases. Important examples are peat bogs, trees and woodlands.

Catchment Area

An area of land bounded by watersheds draining into a river, basin, or reservoir. Also known as a catchment basin, drainage area or drainage basin.

Climate Change

A long term change in the 'average weather' experienced by a given region. 'Average weather' includes features such as temperature, wind patterns and precipitation.

Compensation

Providing for the equivalent of what has been lost. In biodiversity, compensation may be bigger or more than the actual original habitat due to the time delay, often years, for the compensation habitat to reach the size/quality of the original habitat.

Conservation Areas

Conservation areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Planning authorities may designate areas that are of special architectural or historic interest as Conservation Areas

Consultation Authorities

Organisations with a particular status for involvement in the SEA under the Regulations. In Scotland these are the NatureScot, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland).

Contaminated Land

Land that has been polluted or harmed in some way making it unfit for safe development and usage unless cleaned.

Corbett

Corbetts are Scottish mountains that are 2,500–3,000 ft (762.0–914.4 m) high with a relative height of 500ft (152.4 m).

Core Path

Core paths are paths, waterways or any other means of crossing land to facilitate, promote and manage the exercise of access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, and are identified as such in access authority (either a Local or National Park Authority) core paths plans.

Cultural Heritage

Relates to both the physical artefacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present for the benefit of future generations. Includes Scheduled Monuments and other significant archaeological sites and landscapes, listed buildings, conservation areas, historic gardens and designed landscapes included in the published inventory and others of national and corporate importance which are likely to be included.

Cultural Landscape

A landscape that is taken to embrace any kind of human activity that can be related to landscape. It includes the contrived and sometimes pre-eminent expressions of

culture, like art or literature, in which the landscape may be depicted or described, as well as the prosaic and commonplace expressions, like the choice of building materials, which were perhaps not intended to create something valuable or special.

Cumulative Effects

The effects that result from changes caused by a project, plan, programme or policy in association with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future plans and actions. Cumulative effects are specifically noted in the SEA Directive in order to emphasise the need for broad and comprehensive information regarding effects.

Ecological Connectivity

The natural link for species/genetic information to travel between habitats/populations to prevent/reverse the effects of habitats fragmentation and to allow species to adapt better to climate change.

Ecological Footprint

The ecological footprint is a measure of human demand on the Earth's ecosystems, the amount of natural capital used each year.

Ecosystem services

Ecosystem services are the products and services, such as oxygen production, water purification, carbon sequestration etc, which humans receive from functioning ecosystems. These services and products are provided by the natural environment when it is in good condition. For example, a peat bog in good condition can provide services of water purification, carbon sequestration and flood alleviation.

Enhancement

Measures envisaged to maximise the benefits of the positive actions of implementing the plan. Biodiversity enhancements are an improvement to a habitat/species population over and above what is already there. This could be through increasing/restoring habitats or increasing/improving opportunities for species.

Environment

Mostly used in an ecological sense to cover natural resources and the relationships between them. However, more broadly it is the surroundings or conditions in which all persons, animals, or plants live or operate.

Environmental Assessment

A tool for integrating environmental considerations into decision making by assessing the significant environmental effects. In the SEA Directive, an environmental assessment means “the preparation of an Environmental Report”, the carrying out of consultations, the taking into account of the Environmental Report and the results of the consultations in decision making and the provision of information on the decision”, in accordance with the Directive’s requirements.

Environmental Report

Document required by the SEA Directive as part of an environmental assessment, which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing a plan or programme.

European Sites

European sites comprise Special Areas for Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar sites.

Flood

The temporary inundation of land not normally covered by water.

Flood Prevention

Works, including man-made walls, channels, embankments and flood storage areas that are designed to protect and area from flooding or to reduce its effects.

Flood Risk

A combination of the probability of a flood and of the potential for adverse consequences associated with a flood for human health, the natural and historic environment and economic activity.

Geoconservation

Geoconservation involves recognising, protecting and managing sites and landscapes identified as important for their rocks, fossils, minerals, or other geological or geomorphological features of interest.

Geodiversity

Geodiversity is the variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, landforms, sediments and soils, together with the natural processes which form and alter them.

Geological Conservation Review (GCR) Sites

The GCR identifies those sites of national and international importance that show the scientific elements of the Earth heritage of Britain. These sites display sediments, rocks, fossils, and features of the landscape that make a special contribution to our understanding and appreciation of Earth science and the geological history of Britain.

Geomorphology

The branch of geology that is concerned with the structure, origin, and development of the topographical features of the earth's surface.

Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)

An Assessment of the potential effects of PPS on one or more International sites, both within the Responsible Authority's

boundary and any sites that could be affected outside the boundary. The assessment looks at whether a PPS is likely to have a significant effect on an International site, alone or in combination. If so, an Appropriate Assessment is carried out to see whether the PPS would have an adverse effect on site integrity. If it is found that the PPS is likely to have a significant negative impact on any of the sites, the plan will need to be amended accordingly.

Historic Environment

The historic environment includes ancient monuments, archaeological sites and landscapes, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens and designated landscapes and features, both statutory and non-statutory. It also includes the location of historic features in the landscape and the patterns of past use.

Historic Landscape

A landscape which displays a myriad of features that are the result of the activities of the people who used and shaped the land to serve their needs in the past: they reflect

the beliefs, attitudes, traditions and values of those people.

Household

A household is defined as:

- one person living alone, or
- a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room or sitting room or dining area.

Household Waste

Waste from a domestic property, caravan, residential home or from premises forming part of a university, school or other educational establishment.

Indicator

A means by which change in a system or to an objective can be measured.

International Sites

See European Sites.

Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland

The Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland is a listing of gardens

and designed landscapes of national artistic and/or historical significance.

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields is a heritage register listing nationally significant battlefields.

Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)

JSA is an unemployment benefit that can be claimed by those looking for work. It can be used as an indicator for employment rates.

Landfill

The permanent disposal of waste into the ground, by the filling of man-made voids or similar features, or the construction of landforms above ground level (land-raising).

Landscape Character

The distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements that occur within a particular landscape and how these are perceived. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landforms, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.

Landscape Character Areas

Single unique areas that are the discrete geographical expression of a particular landscape type.

Local Authority

In Scotland, a Unitary Authority with the responsibility for responsible for all local government functions within its area.

Listed Buildings

A building or structure of special archaeological or historic interest. Listed buildings are graded A, B or C, with Grade A being the highest. Listing can include the interior and exterior of a building and any building or permanent structure. Historic Scotland is responsible for designating listed buildings in Scotland.

Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan is a statutory plan which sets out policies and specific proposals for the development and use of land in the county for approximately 5 years and provides strategic direction for the next 20. Local Development Plans were introduced in 2004 following the

introduction of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

Mitigation

Measures to avoid, reduce or offset significant adverse effects.

Monitoring

Activities undertaken after the decision is made to adopt the plan or programme to examine its implementation. For example, monitoring to examine whether the significant environmental effects occur as predicted or to establish whether mitigation and enhancement measures are implemented and are working.

Muirburn

Prescribed burning used to improve spring grazing for sheep and deer, but is deployed mainly on driven grouse moors as rotational strip burning ('strip muirburn') of heather moorland to maintain a mosaic of young and old heather to provide forage and cover respectively for red grouse.

Munro

A Munro is a mountain in Scotland with a height over 3,000ft (914.4 m).

National Designations

For the purpose of the SEA, National Designations comprise areas statutorily designated by the UK government i.e. National Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP)

The Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP) 2017-2022 will be the management plan for the Cairngorms National Park as required under section 11 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000.

National Nature Reserves (NNR)

NNRs are statutory nature reserves designed under Part III of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

National Scenic Area (NSA)

NSAs were designated in 1980/1981 in recognition of their outstanding scenery. Along with Scotland's two National Parks, they represent our nation's finest landscapes

Objective

A statement of what is intended, specifying the desired direction of change in trends.

Options

See Alternatives.

Placemaking

A design process aimed at creating integrated communities that are based upon high quality, distinct, accessible areas, which will help, generate strong a sense of community enabling healthy lifestyles.

Planned Towns

A town that was carefully planned from its inception and is typically constructed in a previously undeveloped area.

Plans, Policies and Strategies

Part of Stage A of the SEA process, the 'scoping' stage, requires a thorough review of relevant plans, policies and strategies (PPSs) to be completed. This review is used to inform the SEA process, to ensure the plan is informed by up to date information and is also based on sound evidence.

Potentially Vulnerable Area (PVA)

Potentially vulnerable areas are areas identified by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) in accordance with section 13 of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 where SEPA considers that significant flood risk exists or is likely to occur.

Prime Quality Agricultural Land

Prime Quality Agricultural Land is land identified as being of Class 1, 2 or 3.1 in the land capability classification for agriculture as developed by the Macaulay Land Use Research Institute.

Protected Areas

Protected areas represent the very best of Scotland's landscapes, plants and animals, rocks, fossils and landforms. They take the form of local, national and international designations, including National Nature Reserves, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites.

Quantitative Reasoning

Quantitative reasoning is the application of mathematical concepts and skills to solve real-world problems.

Ramsar Site

Wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention. The designation recognises the fundamental ecological functions of these areas as well as their economic, cultural, scientific, and recreational value.

Responsible Authority

Under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the authority by which or on whose behalf the plan is prepared, or its successor.

Scheduled Monuments

A Scheduled Monument is a monument of national importance that the Scottish Ministers have given legal protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. There are over 200 classes of monuments from prehistoric standing stones and burial mounds, through the many types of medieval site (e.g. castles, monasteries, abandoned farmsteads and villages) to more the recent result of human activity, such as collieries and wartime pillboxes.

Scoping Report

The Scoping Report summarises the findings of Stage A of the SEA process and outlines such matters as identifying other relevant plans, policies and programmes, baseline information, environmental issues (problems and opportunities).

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. It allows effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation.

Secondary Effects

This concept recognises that achieving economic growth has to be done in such a way that does not harm the environment or squander the natural resources we depend on, whilst at the same time distributing the wealth this creates equally to improve quality of life now and in the future.

Significant Environmental Effects

There is no statutory definition of significance. However, for the purposes of this assessment a significant effect has been defined as an effect that, either in isolation or in combination with others, should, in the opinion of the assessor, be taken into account in the decision-making process.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Designated under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, SSSIs are those areas of land and water that NatureScot considers to best represent Scotland's natural heritage - its diversity of plants, animals and habitats, rocks and landforms, or a combinations of such natural features

Soil Sealing

The covering of the soil surface with impervious materials as a result of urban development and infrastructure construction. Sealed areas are lost to uses such as agriculture or forestry while the ecological soil functions are severely impaired or even prevented (e.g. soil working as a buffer and filter system or as a

carbon sink). In addition, surrounding soils may be influenced by change in water flow patterns or the fragmentation of habitats.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

SACs are strictly protected sites designated for biological interests (other than birds) under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (known as the Habitats Regulations).

Special Protection Area (SPA)

SPAs are strictly protected sites classified for bird interests under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (known as the Habitats Regulations).

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Strategic Environmental Assessment is a systematic method for considering the likely environmental effects of certain PPS. It is required under the SEA Directive.

Sustainable Development

This concept recognises that achieving economic growth has to be done in such a way that does not harm the environment or squander the natural resources we depend

on, whilst at the same time distributing the wealth this creates equally to improve quality of life now and in the future.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

An approach to managing rainfall and run off in developments, with a view to replicating natural drainage. SuDS also aim to reduce pollution, control flooding and often provide environmental enhancements.

Synergistic Effects

A type of cumulative effect where two or more impacts combine to produce a complex interaction where the effect may be larger or smaller than component impacts. Synergistic effects are specifically noted in the SEA Directive in order to emphasise the need for broad and comprehensive information regarding the effects.

SEA Directive

Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

Waste

Waste is any material or object that is no longer wanted and requires disposal. If a material or object is re-usable, it is still classed as waste if it has first been discarded.

Waste Hierarchy

A framework for securing a sustainable approach to waste management. The Revised Waste Framework Directive 2010 outlines a new hierarchy which should act as a 'priority order' in waste prevention, legislation and policy. The amended hierarchy is Prevention; then Preparing for reuse; Recycling; Other recovery including energy recovery; and finally Disposal.

Wellbeing

A holistic, subjective state which is present when a range of feelings, among them energy, confidence, openness, enjoyment, happiness, calm and caring, are combined and balanced.

Wild Land

Largely semi-natural landscapes that show minimal signs of human influence. These

areas can be mountains and moorland, stretches of undeveloped coast or large areas of peatland.

Wild Land Area (WLA)

WLAs are identified by NatureScot as having extensive areas of high wildness. They are identified as nationally important in Scottish Planning Policy but are not a statutory designation

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