



EAP Meeting

Held virtually on Tuesday 24th June – 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Present:

Brenna Jessie
Kate Christie
Hannah Grist
Katherine Willing
Kevin Hutchens
Keith Turner
Sheroshi Das
Vanessa Kind
Linda Bamford
Anita Howard
Kate Dowding

Apologies:

Lina Payne
Lilliana Corrieri
Marissa Ginger
Becca Mayo
Stuart Hall
Micah Daigeaun

1. Item one: Welcome

- Hannah welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Item two: Review of Minutes of May 2025 Meeting

- Action log reviewed and updated.
- The May meeting minutes were agreed with no amendments.

3. Item three: Review of new Park Authority website led by Brenna Jessie, Digital Communications Manager.

- Brenna showed the panel the new website and highlighted key features of the new website. This included showing the panel the accessibility page, accessibility features, such as the magnifying glass and the ability to use a screen reader, highlighting the use of inclusive imagery and simplified content to help actively reduce barriers and reflect that the Cairngorms National Park is a park for all. Brenna also highlighted the use of AI to create



summaries of documents from the previous website to help make them more accessible to people. Brenna also showed the panel the accessibility statement.

Panel Feedback

- The panel discussed with Brenna that the search function is currently key word specific, but the communications team are working on the development of this function.
- The panel raised that some videos did not have British Sign Language or subtitles. It was agreed that the panel member would send a link to this video to Brenna to investigate. The panel also raised a few videos were out-of-date or they experienced issues accessing them. Brenna explained that CNPA's new guidance is all videos should be appropriately subtitled however, on occasions this is not possible where this is an old video.
- It was raised that the visiting on a budget page did not include information on grants available from external organisations such as the family fund, benevolent funds and the Scottish Youth Hostel Association. It was also raised that there was no information on assistance for staying for an extended period of time. Brenna explained that the communications team have tried to reduce hosting third party content as this can lead to content being out-of-date for the user. Brenna suggested that this could be an opportunity for the EAP to be involved with content and potentially write a time stamped blog with assistance with the communications team.
- The panel praised the website, in particular, there were multiple references to the quality of the images and thanks that the images were representative of many different groups of people. The panel reflected that this helps individuals to feel seen.
- The panel suggested to work with the Badenoch and Strathspey Access Panel as there has been work done in the Cairngorms that would be helpful to show whether a surface is accessible for a wheelchair user or whether there are benches if someone needs a break due to reduced mobility. Brenna agreed to speak with Sustainable Transport and Travel colleagues to make sure this has been covered.
- The panel congratulated the communications team for making sure documents were available as PDFs and word documents. The panel also felt the new site was much easier to navigate than the old site.
- The panel suggested including a site map to help users find the information they need.
- The panel felt the accessibility statement was good, especially as it acknowledged some old content will not be accessible.
- The panel wanted to understand the choice to use the equalities email address for feedback on the new website. Brenna explained there had been discussion on this and it was an external email address, any emails regarding the website will be sent to the relevant officers.
- The panel suggested adding an accessibility icon to pages such as plan your visit to help link the accessibility page throughout the website.



- The panel raised that the website worked well for those accessing it for educational purposes.
- The panel asked how it was decided which organisations were added to the plan your visit map and how this is kept up-to-date. Brenna explained that this information has come from different teams so was not able to provide detail on this, however, reflected that the decision process for which organisations are included would follow the organisations principles.
- The panel suggested that the feedback form could be made into a video that had British Sign Language and subtitles to make sure it is accessible, as well as potentially adding British Sign Language to the contact us page. Brenna explained that this would be looked into but perhaps it would be better suited to an easy read format.
- The panel suggested adding to the grants section. Brenna agreed to check with the transport team to see if the suggestions fit but explained that they are being careful not to duplicate pages.

4. AOBs

- The group was informed that the Venison Deer Larder had just made its first delivery of venison to a women's domestic abuse shelter following a suggestion from the EAP.
- The group was informed that the National Park Authority is currently drafting a response to the consultation on the Equality and Human Rights Commission's draft guidance on how organisations should interpret the UK Supreme Court ruling that a woman is defined by biological sex in law. Response from staff members has been sought. The panel were informed that CNPA had wanted to share this with the panel for their input but unfortunately this was not possible due to the time scales set out in the consultation.
- The panel were reminded that there will be no EAP meeting in July due to the break and the next session will be in August.
- The panel discussed when the in-person meeting will happen. It was originally planned for September, but it is agreed that this will likely be too soon and it will happen later.

End of meeting

Next meeting 26 August 2025