



## Cairngorms Local Outdoor Access Forum

### Paper 1- Election of a new Convener

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#### **Purpose**

Members of the Cairngorms Local Outdoor Access Forum are required to:

- elect a new convener or:
- agree a one year extension for the existing convenor or:
- agree to the next two meetings being chaired by the Park Authority

#### **LOAF Convener**

1. Members are asked to consider and agree one of the following options:
  - a. Members are invited to propose themselves for convenorship providing they have secured seconder. The election of the new convener will proceed as per annex 1.
  - b. John Greison has stated he is willing to continue as Convener for an additional year. The current Convenor has exceeded his 6 year membership term and therefore it is proposed that as an exception all members recruited before 2024 have their membership extended from 6 to 7 years:
  - c. That this meeting and the next are chaired by a representative of the Park Authority and/or until such time as new Convener is appointed

**LOAF Members must agree one of the options above before the meeting can commence**



Annex 1

## METHOD FOR ELECTING A CONVENER

1. The Forum shall elect a Convener from amongst its membership. The process of election will be as follows:
  - a) Members may propose themselves as Convener, but another member must second the nomination for it to be valid.
  - b) Members who are absent from the meeting may nominate themselves for election, provided they have indicated to the Secretariat in writing their wish to be nominated and have the appropriate backing. If they wish, their written statement may be circulated at the meeting in lieu of a verbal statement.
  - c) Each candidate will have the opportunity to make a short verbal statement to the meeting (maximum 5 minutes).
  - d) Election will be as follows:
    - The election for the Convener
    - All voting will be by secret ballot.
    - Members will score the candidates in descending order of preference – for example, if there are **four** candidates their preferred candidate will receive **four** points; second choice, three points; third choice, two points and last choice, one point.
    - The candidate with the overall highest number of points in each election will be the Convener.
    - If votes are tied, members who are present will have one vote for their preferred candidate.
    - If the votes are still tied then the decision will be made by cutting a pack of playing cards, the candidate with the highest card will win. An ace is considered as a low card. If any of the candidates are absent, another member will be assigned to cut the cards for them by proxy.
    - In the event of only one valid candidate, they will automatically be confirmed as Convener.

The duration of office for the first Convener.

2. Thereafter the duration of the office will be 3 years (unless the member concerned ceases to be a Member of the Forum, or resigns from the position of Convener before the end of the period).



3. For cases in which a Convener resigns or ceases to be a Member, the above process will apply, as the first item of business, at the next Forum meeting following the vacancy arising.
4. The Convener will preside over meetings and in his or her absence members will decide who will preside.
5. At the second last Forum meeting before the term of office of a current Convener expires, election of the next Convener shall take place.

### **Notes**

Para 1b) Agency staff are the only members of the Forum with substitution rights, which is incompatible with the need for a Convener who are consistent individual members of the Forum

Para 2) This ties in with the length of time of Forum membership for the inaugural term

Para 3) This ties in with length of appointment for future terms of membership