

Cairngorms 2030

2024 programme update

Putting the power to tackle the nature and climate crises in the hands of people who live, visit and work in the Cairngorms National Park



about... Cairngorms 2030

Inspired by the Gaelic word *Dùthchas*, Cairngorms 2030 is putting the power to tackle the nature and climate crisis in the hands of people who live, visit and work in the UK's largest national park.

Over five years, the programme will inspire rural and urban communities throughout Scotland and beyond to take action and make a difference.

Dùthchas

[noun, 'tu:xəs/]

The deep-rooted connection
between people and nature

Across 20 long-term projects we will:



Transform the way land is managed and used to **benefit nature**



Empower communities to **shape the future** of their local area



Make getting around the Cairngorms **easier, safer and greener**



Foster **healthier, happier communities** with wellbeing at their heart





Funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, with thanks to National Lottery players, Cairngorms 2030 involves collaboration with over 90 partner organisations in the delivery of the programme. This transformational vision is well on its way to making the Cairngorms National Park the UK's first net zero national park and a better place to live, work and visit.

“Your time, talent, guidance and partnership make a significant contribution to our learners’ experience and the culture of our school.”

Participant schoolteacher

“I feel more confident walking and being in nature, I have connected with forest bathing which has increased my feeling of being relaxed and connected and has introduced me to new friends.”

Green Health project participant

“The Outdoor Dementia Resource Centre is a vital resource and the team there are worth their weight in gold.”

Outdoor Dementia Resource Centre participant

"We need to do something now to stop the biodiversity loss so the next generation can enjoy what we had when we were young."

Local farmer





Empowering communities

Focussing on local people, putting them at the heart of decision making, and encouraging them to get involved and have their say. Working to empower the voices of communities on what matters most to them.

1,200

attendees at
community
engagement events



Supported a
network of creatives
strengthening local
connections to
landscape and place



Over 500 local
school pupils tackling
climate change in
their community



Innovative new community
engagement methods
tested ensuring everyone
can contribute and get
involved in decision making



£167,000 of community
grants awarded by the
Cairngorms Trust to 18
projects, including supporting
young people and under-
represented groups into work



Transforming transport

We are improving active and sustainable travel options within the **National Park**, working with local communities to make travel within the area easier and greener.



£53,000

grants and contracts
for transport projects
in 2024



Built cycling
confidence with
school pupils through
bike maintenance
sessions



Enabled safer
routes in Kingussie
by collaborating
on junction
improvements



Over 500 people
connected with the
Transport team to
feedback on sustainable
transport initiatives



Restoring and enhancing landscapes

We are working with land managers and communities to enhance rivers, peatland and woodland ecosystems. In 2024, Cairngorms 2030 has progressed our journey to net zero by working to restore landscapes, finding solutions to address the nature and climate crisis.



2,000ha
of peatland
restored

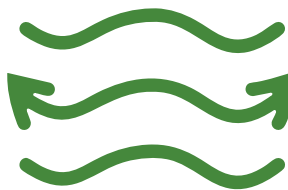


517ha

**native woodland
planted at Atholl
Estates**



Two deer larders
delivered and in
operation



**Worked to restore
rivers**, reconnecting
them to their natural
flood plains and
boosting biodiversity



Supported six farms
to trial sustainable
practices that benefit
nature and reduce
carbon emissions



Improving people's health and wellbeing

Across the public, private and third sectors, Cairngorms 2030 is promoting **green health solutions**, focusing on connecting with nature to support and improve the health and wellbeing of residents in the National Park.

The UK's first Outdoor Dementia Resource Centre benefited people living with dementia and their carers more than

1,000

times through community events and outreach



'Wintering Well' campaign created, supporting and encouraging access to nature throughout the winter months



Shared learning about inclusive green healthcare with students from the University of the Highlands and Islands



Nature prescriptions launched, with 39 referrals in 2024

FOREST
CARBON



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For more information, visit cairngorms.co.uk/cairngorms2030

Front cover image: Volunteer rangers planting trees to boost biodiversity on a farm © Rupert Shanks
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