



Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2022

STRATEGY

Strategic Environmental Assessment

DRAFT Environmental Report

September 2021

(also incorporating the Habitats Regulations Appraisal)

Cover Note **PART 1**

To: SEA_Gateway@gov.scot

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PART 2

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

Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2022 - 2027

The Responsible Authority is:

Cairngorms National Park Authority

PART 3

- 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.

PART 4

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PART 5

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Date

24 September 2021

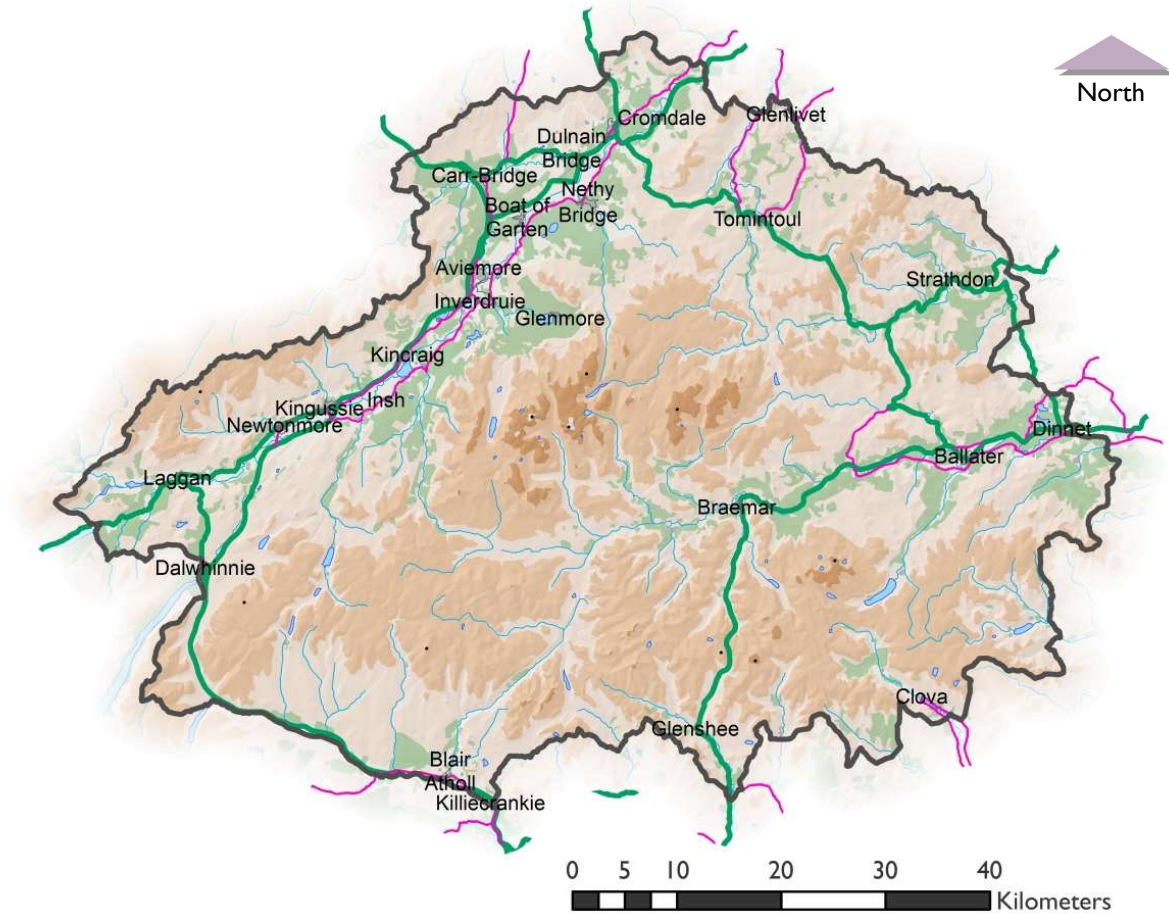
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Note: Topic papers are provided in a separate document

Non-technical summary

This Environmental Report assesses the potential environmental effects of the next National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP) for the Cairngorms National Park (figure 1).



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Figure 1 – the area covered by the National Park Partnership Plan.

The NPPP identifies measures that partner organisations and the National Park Authority will work together on to meet the legislative aims for National Parks:

- 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.

These aims are to be pursued collectively. However, if there is conflict between the first aim and any of the others then greater weight must be given to the first aim (section 9.6 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act). This is a sustainable development approach in which conservation of the natural and cultural heritage underpins the economic, social and recreation value of the National Park.

The main issues facing the National Park can be summarised as the effects of climate change on people and nature, the effects of people and land management practices on nature, and a housing market that does not meet local housing needs (see separate environmental baseline Topic papers for further information). The NPPP seeks to identify solutions to these issues through a range of policies, objectives, short and long term targets. Some of these solutions may have environmental effects. The main purpose of the Strategic Environmental Assessment is to identify where effects may occur, to enable amendments to minimise harmful effects.

None of the policies or objectives in the NPPP were predicted to have environmental effects (**Annex II: Environmental assessment tables**). The environmental assessment identified three short term actions and one long term target in the NPPP as having the potential to have environmental effects. Of these, three were predicted to have positive environmental effects. Only one was predicted to have limited harmful environmental effects, however measures applied as part of planning permission have already reduced these to a minimal level. So it is not possible to minimise the effects any further.

As the NPPP is implemented, monitoring will occur on an annual basis to see if there are any unexpected effects (**Annex V: Monitoring measures table**). If unexpected effects occur, action will be taken to remedy them as appropriate to the effect and its cause.

I. Context for the Environmental Report

a. Background

The plan being assessed is the fourth National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP). The NPPP is a five year management plan covering the whole of the Cairngorms National Park area (figure 1) for the period 2022 – 2027, although it also contains targets up to 2040. It will replace the current NPPP, which covers the period 2017 – 2022. NPPPs seek to identify key land management, social and economic issues for the Park as a whole, along with strategic measures to alleviate them.

The NPPP was subject to SEA scoping in early 2020. Responses from statutory consultees have been taken into account during the preparation of the draft Environmental Report.

b. Alternatives

Having a NPPP is a legal requirement under required under section 11 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000. This limits the options available for consideration of alternatives, as having no NPPP is not permitted. Carrying forward the current 2017 – 2022 NPPP was ruled out as it does not fully reflect or address the contemporary issues facing the National Park. Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) worked with partner organisations to identify issues and solutions during 2020 and 2021, resulting in the draft NPPP. Unfeasible alternative solutions were ruled out during that process, meaning that the solutions felt by partners to be most viable were put forward into the draft NPPP.

c. About the National Park Partnership Plan and relationship with other plans

The NPPP will:

- Set the strategic vision and priorities for managing the Park by identifying key land management, social and economic issues.
- Identify measures that CNPA and partners think will alleviate the issues and make the biggest contribution to a successful National Park over the plan's lifetime and beyond.
- Provide focus and priorities at a time of limited financial resources.
- Show how the four aims of the National Park can be achieved together, benefiting people and place.

The NPPP will also provide strategic direction for five key strategies and plans that sit below it, as shown in figure 2. In turn, these plans and strategies will support delivery of the NPPP priorities. (Note that these strategies may change name and location in the hierarchy as the 2022 NPPP is implemented, however they will remain below the NPPP and cover the same topic areas.)



Figure 2 – hierarchy of CNPA plans and strategies currently linked to the NPPP

d. Environmental protection objectives in other plans, programmes and strategies

There are a large number of other plans, programmes and strategies (PPS) that are of relevance to the NPPP. Due to their number, these are listed in **Annex I: Plans, programmes and strategies relevant to the NPPP**. The PPS are categorised according to their international, national and local scales and are accompanied by information on their purpose, relationship with the NPPP and their relevance to the environmental assessment.

2. Current state of the environment

a. Topics considered

Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 lists categories of potential environmental effects that should be considered as part of the environmental assessment process. These have been grouped together into eight Topic areas. The Topics are:

- Topic 1: Climatic Factors
- Topic 2: Air
- Topic 3: Water

- Topic 4: Soil (including geodiversity¹)
- Topic 5: Material Assets
- Topic 6: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
- Topic 7: Landscape and Cultural Heritage
- Topic 8: Population and Human Health

All the SEA Topics have been included in the environmental assessment, as the strategic nature of the NPPP and baseline issues have the potential to influence all topics.

b. Environmental baseline

The separate Topic papers present information on the environmental baseline, ordered by the eight different topic areas: climatic factors, air, water, soil, material assets, biodiversity flora and fauna, landscape and cultural heritage, population and human health. (**Annex IV: Population data analysis information** provides information on how some elements of the population and human health baseline were assessed, due to complexities of gathering data at a National Park rather than Local Authority level.)

A different approach has been taken to presenting the baseline information, by using infographics rather than the traditional text heavy written report style. The aim of this is to make the information more accessible and understandable to consultees and the public. (The infographics are also suitable for use for more purposes than SEA alone. By being multi-purpose, this represents more efficient working for CNPA staff.)

The baseline data has been taken from a variety of sources, such as the 2011 Census, Scottish Government National Statistics, National Records of Scotland, Forestry and Land Scotland, NatureScot, Registrar of Scotland, and the five Councils in the National Park. (**Annex IV: Population data analysis information** provides details of how the population data was gathered at the National Park level.)

3. Environmental assessment

a. Assessment carried out

The environmental assessment is presented in **Annex II: Environmental assessment tables**. In summary, none of the policies or objectives in the NPPP were predicted to have environmental effects. The environmental assessment identified three short term actions and one long term target in the NPPP as having the potential to have environmental effects. Of these, three were predicted to have positive environmental effects. Only one was predicted to have limited harmful environmental effects, however measures applied as part

¹ Geodiversity is more relevant to soils (Topic 4) due to the small number of quarries in the National Park. The contribution of mineral extraction to resources is still included under Topic 5.

of planning permission have already reduced these to a minimal level. So it is not possible to minimise the effects any further.

Table I provides the scoring matrix used to ensure consistency during the environmental assessment.

Table I – scoring matrix

Significance of Effect	
Element would have a major positive environmental effect in its current form as it would resolve an existing issue or maximise opportunities. SIGNIFICANT.	++
Element would have a minor positive environmental effect.	+
Effect of Element is uncertain.	?
No connectivity with the environmental Topic/Objective being assessed.	x
Element would have no predicted environmental effects.	0
Element would have a minor adverse environmental effect.	-
The Element would have a major adverse environmental effect as it would create significant new problems or substantially exacerbate existing problems. Consider exclusion of option. SIGNIFICANT.	--

Consideration of cumulative/in combination effects was part of the assessment process, rather than being a separate assessment. However no cumulative effects with sufficient information to enable meaningful assessment were found. (For example, while the proposed woodland expansion, biodiversity enhancement and peatland restoration targets are likely to interact, because the NPPP is a high level document, there is limited specific information on where, how and when individual activities/projects arising from the three elements would interact. This means it is not possible to assess what cumulative effects, if any, would occur.) Nonetheless, it should be noted that more detailed information of many of the targets would be part of other plans programmes or strategies, which themselves would be subject to environmental assessment at a scale better able to quantify and assess cumulative/in combination effects at that time.

Due to the NPPP being a high level document, many of the policies and objectives are too vague to enable meaningful assessment of potential environmental effects, and/or are not geographically specific enough to enable assessment, and/or relate to processes that in themselves do not result in change or environmental effects. So while actions arising from many of the policies/objectives might give rise to some environmental effects, it is not possible to assess what those are, where they might occur, their scale and/or their significance. Many of the effects would be managed through consenting processes (such as planning permission) or SEA of other plans, programmes or strategies (such as the

Cairngorms Nature Action Plan), which would contain more detail that would enable assessment at that time.

Some of the policies/objectives/targets are also reliant on implementation of other plans or strategies, such as the LDP and Forest Strategy, which are subject to separate SEA on their more detailed content.

The Rural Land Use Partnership and Plan element of the NPPP lack sufficient detail to enable meaningful assessment. They will also be separate plans and so will be subject to separate SEA on their detailed content. Heritage Horizons projects are not assessed, as they will be subject to separate environmental assessment at the detailed project design stage.

b. Other environmental assessments

A Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) has been undertaken at the same time as the draft Environmental Report. The HRA has been used to inform the Environmental Report and vice versa as part of an iterative process. For ease of cross reference, the HRA is provided in **Annex VI: Habitats Regulations Appraisal**.

4. Monitoring

The effects of implementation of the NPPP will be monitored during its lifetime. **Annex V: Monitoring measures table** identifies what measures will be used and what monitoring will be undertaken. If unexpected effects occur, action will be taken to remedy them as appropriate to the effect and its cause

5. Next steps

At the end of the consultation period on the draft NPPP and Environmental Report, consultation responses will be reviewed. Where this results in a change to the NPPP, the environmental assessment will be reviewed and updated accordingly. Consultee comments on the Environmental Report itself will also be reviewed and the Environmental Report updated as appropriate.

Once the NPPP and Environmental Report have been finalised, the NPPP will be adopted and a post-adoption statement on the Environmental Report issued. The finalised NPPP is anticipated to be ready for adoption in summer 2022.

Annex I: Plans, programmes and strategies relevant to the NPPP

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
International Directives and Policies			
European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (European Council, 1992)	European adopted under the auspices of the Council of Europe to protect and promote historical regional and minority languages in Europe. Identifies Gaelic as being an endangered language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landscape and Cultural heritage – Population and Human health 	The proposals in the NPPP should support the Gaelic language where relevant to the priorities identified.
European Landscape Convention (European Commission, 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, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural heritage – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should be a tool for the maintenance and restoration of landscapes and their natural habitats.
The Paris Agreement (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2015)	The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climatic Factors 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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 with the objective of reducing the Greenhouse gases that cause climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climatic factors 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support measures that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
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"> – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should ensure the protection and enhancement of wetlands.
Taking Sustainable Use of Resources Forward: A thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste (EU 2005)	A sector based strategy produced as a requirement of the Seventh Environmental Action Programme of the European Community, seeking to help Europe become a recycling society that seeks to avoid waste and uses waste as a resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climatic factors – Air – Material assets 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should seek to minimise waste and promote recycling.
Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection (EU 2006)	A sector based strategy produced as a requirement of the Seventh Environmental Action Programme of the European Community, seeking to establish common principles for the protection and sustainable use of soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Soil and geodiversity 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should contribute towards the protection and improvement of soil.
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UN, 1992)	An international legally-binding treaty with three main goals: conservation of biodiversity; sustainable use of biodiversity; fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should look for opportunities to

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
			conserve, and where possible restore, biodiversity.
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Rio Earth Summit) 1992 (UN, 1992)	Treaty aimed at reducing global emissions of greenhouse gases to combat global warming.	– Climatic factors	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should assist in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
– National Legislation (UK and Scotland)			
Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000 (as amended in Scotland)	Establishes standards for air quality and sets limits for various pollutants in Scotland.	– Air – Population and Human health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should ensure that scheduled ancient monuments and archaeological areas are not adversely affected by new development.
Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Legislation to set a target for the year 2050, an interim target for the year 2020, and to provide for annual targets, for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; to provide about the giving of advice to the Scottish Ministers relating to climate change; to confer power on Ministers to impose climate change duties on public bodies; to make further provision about mitigation of and adaptation to climate change; to make provision about energy efficiency, including provision enabling council tax discounts; to make	– Climatic factors	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support and include climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
	provision about the reduction and recycling of waste; and for connected purposes.		
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.	– Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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 Topics	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 Topics	Enables the significant environmental effects of the plan to be identified and addressed.
Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (Scotland) Regulations 2017	Requires environmental impact assessments for certain forestry projects.	– All Topics	The plan will be required to be compatible with Environmental Impact Assessments legislation.
The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017	Requires environmental impact assessment of site specific projects and specifically requires consideration of Sensitive Areas including National Parks.	– All Topics	The plan will be required to be compatible with Environmental Impact Assessments legislation.
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 – Population and Human health	The plan should support flood management, particularly natural flood management.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005	The Act aims to secure Gaelic as an official language of Scotland, "commanding equal respect" with English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 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	Amongst other things, establishes Historic Environment Scotland with the general function of investigating, caring for and promoting Scotland's historic environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landscape and Cultural heritage 	The plan should support the protection and preservation of the historic environment.
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Population and Human health 	The 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 – Landscape and Cultural Heritage – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Population and Human health 	The 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All Topics 	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
	(SSSI), amends legislation on Nature Conservation Orders, provides for Land Management Orders for SSSIs and associated land, strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, and requires the preparation of a Scottish Fossil Code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	should support conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.
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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should ensure that listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens are not adversely affected.
Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended in Scotland)	Sets out offences in relation to the protection of badgers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should encourage improvements to the water environment and support measures for more efficient use of water.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
		– Population and Human health	
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.	– Water – Population and Human health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should have regard to Scottish Water's duties under this Act.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended in Scotland)	Sets out offences in relation to the protection of certain species.	– Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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.	– Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support provisions of the Act.
Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	To make provision in relation to the conservation of biodiversity; to make further provision in relation to the conservation and enhancement of Scotland's natural features; to amend the law relating to the protection of certain birds, animals and plants; and for connected purposes.	– Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support provisions of the Act.
– National Policy (UK and Scotland)			

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
The Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations 2000	Sets out air quality objectives for Scotland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Air – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.
Creating Places - A policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland (Scottish Government, 2013)	A policy statement on architecture and place setting out the comprehensive value good design can deliver. The document contains an action plan that sets out the work that will be taken forward to achieve positive change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landscape and Cultural heritage – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support good design.
Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme (Scottish Government, 2014)	Sets objectives in relation to adaptation to climate change, Ministerial proposals and policies for meeting those objectives, and the period within which those proposals and policies will be introduced. The Programme also sets out the arrangements for wider engagement in meeting those objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climatic factors – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.
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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the requirements of responders to fulfil their statutory duties.
Cleaner Air for Scotland – The Road to a Healthier Future (Scottish Government, 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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should encourage reductions in emissions through a range of measures.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
Climate Change: The UK Programme (UK Government, 2000)	Goal to reduce carbon emissions in the UK by 60% by 2050.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climatic factors – Air 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP 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 and geodiversity 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should aim, where possible, to manage significant flood risk to groundwater from flooding related pollution.
Designations Three Year Plan 2016 – 2019 (HES, 2016)	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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should follow the guidance when considering designated sites and structures.
Historic Environment Circular I (HES, 2019)	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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should follow the guidance for policy development on the management of the historic environment.
Historic Environment Policy Statement (HES, 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should follow the guidance for policy development on the management of the historic environment.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016 – 2021 (Scottish Government, 2016)	Outlines strategy for achieving sustainable land use across Scotland and getting the best from the land of Scotland.	– All Topics	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP could 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 (HES, various)	Series of guidance notes which are designed to support the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) and Scottish Planning Policy.	– Landscape and Cultural heritage	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support positive management of the historic environment.
National Planning Framework 3 (Scottish Government, 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 Topics	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the strategic context set by NPF3 for future regional change around the Park.
Control of Woodland Removal Policy (Scottish Government, 2009)	Sets out Scottish Ministers policy on woodland removal in Scotland.	– Climatic Factors – Water – Soil and geodiversity – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the policy
The River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River	Fulfils a requirement under the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003.	– Water – Soil and geodiversity	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support management

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
Basin District: 2015–2027 (SEPA, 2015)		– Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	objectives for water bodies in the National Park.
Scotland Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020 (Scottish Government, 2014)	Sets goals for sustainable rural development and the types of support available.	– All Topics	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP could provide direction on how rural development and diversification should be supported in the Park.
Scotland’s Climate Change Adaptation Framework (Scottish Government, 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	– Climatic factors – Population and Human health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support and include climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.
Scotland’s Economic Strategy (Scottish Government, 2015)	Reaffirms the Scottish Government’s commitment to creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.	– Material assets – Population and Human Health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should encourage economic development that does not adversely affect the special qualities of the Park.
Scotland’s National Transport Strategy (Transport Scotland, 2006)	Scottish Government’s National Strategy for reducing transport emissions by 80%.	– Climatic Factors – Air – Population and Human health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support reductions in emissions from transport.
Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (Scottish Government, 2004 / 2013)	Comprises of two documents: <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) 	– Water – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should reflect the purpose of the Strategy through support for the

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity - A Strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Scotland (2013) Identifies Scottish biodiversity priorities and lead partners for taking action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Cairngorms Nature Action Plan 2013 - 2018.
Scottish Forestry Strategy (Scottish Government, 2019)	Outlines strategic priorities for forestry including management, planting and environmental stewardship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Water Soil and geodiversity Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should provide a strategic direction for forestry policy within the National Park.
Scottish Geodiversity Charter 2018-2023 (Scottish Geodiversity Forum, 2018)	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, heritage and future sustainability to be safeguarded for existing and future generations in Scotland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil and geodiversity Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	The CNPA is a signatory to the Charter and therefore, where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should include actions to help meet its objectives.
Scottish Government's Infrastructure Investment Plan (Scottish Government, 2015)	Gives an overview of the Scottish Government's plans for infrastructure investment over the coming decades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material Assets Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should take account of potential impacts (both positive and negative) of actions on existing and planned developments.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
Scottish Government's National Performance Framework, National Outcomes (Scottish Government, undated)	As part of the National Performance Framework, Scottish Government have set 15 National Outcomes that the public sector must collectively deliver, on children and young people, economy, fair work and business, international, communities, education, health, poverty, culture, environment, human rights.	– All Topics	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should identify and contribute to delivery of the outcomes that are most appropriate in the Park.
Scottish Planning Policy (Scottish Government, 2014)	National planning policy and guidance.	– All Topics	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should the requirements set out within Scottish Planning Policy.
Scottish Soil Framework (Scottish Government, 2009)	Ministers policies and objectives for the conservation and use of soils.	– All Topics	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should promote soil conservation.
Scottish Water Business Plan 2015 – 2021 (Scottish Water, 2015)	The business plan sets out how Scottish Water will deliver improvements to drinking water quality, the environment and customer service required by Scottish Ministers.	– Water – Population and Human health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should be developed with regard to the objectives and actions proposed in the Business Plan.
Scottish Zero Waste Plan (Scottish Government, 2010)	Provides context for waste planning in Scotland by sets the strategic direction for waste policy for Scotland, with a target of 70% recycling and maximum 5% to landfill by 2025 for all Scotland's waste.	– Climatic Factors – Soil and geodiversity – Material assets – Population and Human health	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP support waste management and good design.
Tourism Scotland 2020 (HIE, 2012)	The strategy targets those markets that offer Scotland the greatest growth potential, provides collaboration within	– Landscape and Cultural Heritage	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
	and across Scotland's tourism destinations and develops the authentic memorable experiences tourists seek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population and Human health 	should support development of sustainable tourism to contribute to national targets for tourism growth.
UK Geodiversity Action Plan (UK GAP, 2011)	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"> Soil and geodiversity Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should include actions to help promote and protect the National Park's geodiversity.
UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (JNCC/Defra, 2012)	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 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should reflect the purpose of the Framework through support for the Cairngorms Nature Action Plan 2013 - 2018.
– Local Plans and Strategies			
A9 Dualling Strategy (Transport Scotland)	The project involves the upgrade of 80 miles of single carriageway along the A9 between Perth and Inverness by 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Topics 	The plan will need to consider the effects of the dualling on the aims of the National Park and how this will influence the proposals in the NPPP.
Cairngorms National Park Capercaillie Framework (CNPA, 2015) (and subsequent Cairngorms Capercaillie Project)	The Framework 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the aims of the Framework and ensure that

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
	planning. The Cairngorms Capercaillie Project will deliver the recommendations of the Capercaillie Framework		capercaillie and their habitat are not adversely affected.
Cairngorms National Park Core Paths Plan (CNPA, 2015)	Identifies a network of core paths throughout the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the promotion and development of core paths.
Cairngorms Forest Strategy (CNPA, 2018)	The Forest Strategy provides future direction for the management of existing forests and guidance on creating new woodlands that enhance the Cairngorms National Park and support its four aims.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All Topics 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the aims of the Strategy and ensure that forests and woodlands are not adversely affected.
Cairngorms National Park Economic Strategy 2015-2018 (CNPA, 2015)	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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the National Park's aim to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.
Cairngorms National Park Gaelic Language Plan (CNPA, 2018)	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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the aims of the Language Plan.
Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2021	Establishes development and settlement strategy for the Park, allocates specific development sites, and provides policies for managing development in the Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All Topics 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP,

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
			the plan will need to take account of the proposed Plan contents.
Cairngorms Nature Action Plan (CNPA, 2018)	Priorities and actions for biodiversity in the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the implementation and review of Cairngorms Action Plan
Active Cairngorms (CNPA, 2015)	Provides a framework for managing outdoor access in the Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP can support and promote responsible outdoor access.
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, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural heritage – Population and Human health 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support communities in developing their own plans and capacity.
Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPs) (prepared by Community Planning Partners	Strategic documents outlining (usually socio-economic) priorities for communities. Community Planning Partners include local public services such as councils, NHS boards,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All Topics 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should help deliver priorities to

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
in each of the 5 Local Authority areas overlapping with the Park)	police and fire services, and other public bodies. They work together to improve the way that local services are planned, co-ordinated and carried out.		address inequalities and issues in communities.
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 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support housing delivery.
Regional and Local Transport Strategies (prepared by Local Authorities)	Set out how to maintain and improve infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climatic Factors – Air – Population and Human health 	Plan should support sustainable transport solutions and encourage lower carbon forms of transport.
River Dee Catchment Management Plan (Dee Catchment Partnership, 2007)	Aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, to improve water quality and biodiversity within the river catchment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water – Soil and geodiversity – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support integrated catchment management as a way of improving water quality and the health of natural systems.
River Spey Catchment Management Plan (Spey Catchment Initiative, 2016)	Aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, to improve water quality and biodiversity within the river catchment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water – Soil and geodiversity – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support integrated catchment management as a way of improving water quality and the health of natural systems.

Relevant PPS	Relevant objectives/purpose	SEA Topic	Relationship between the PPS and the NPPP
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	
South Esk Catchment Management Plan (River South Esk Catchment Partnership, 2009)	Aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, to improve water quality and biodiversity within the river catchment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water – Soil and geodiversity – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support integrated catchment management as a way of improving water quality and the health of natural systems.
Tourism: Action + Change: Tourism Action Plan for the Cairngorms National Park 2017-2022 (CNPA, 2017)	Developed by the Cairngorms Tourism Partnership, which brings together the key businesses and agencies involved in tourism, the Action Plan sets out the priority actions over the next five years to deliver sustainable tourism in the Cairngorms National Park in line with the Europarc Federation of Protected Areas Charter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Air – Water – Material assets – Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Landscape and Cultural Heritage 	Where relevant to the priorities identified, the proposals in the NPPP should support the implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Strategy.

Annex II: Environmental assessment tables

Table A1 – policy screening table

Vision/Policy		Reason for screening in/out
Vision	An outstanding National Park, enjoyed and valued by everyone, where nature and people thrive together.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy A1	The Cairngorms National Park will be net-zero by (date to be agreed following baseline work) and will contribute to the delivery of net-zero for Scotland by 2045. This will be supported by:	OUT - While the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect, the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
a)	Focusing on nature-based solutions.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Being a rural exemplar in achieving a just transition.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Working with businesses, land managers, communities and visitors across the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy A2	The management and use of land should deliver multiple benefits and help deliver the Regional Land Use Framework. This will be supported by:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	A long-term planned approach by land based businesses to delivering environmental, economic and social benefits.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Support for land managers to plan and deliver environmental and social benefits underpinned by sound economic businesses.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Applying a regionally targeted approach to rural payments to deliver the most appropriate range of public benefits to the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

d)	Research to support management options.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy A3	Enhance the resilience of habitats, species and land use to climate change, pest and disease risks, ensuring that the integrity of designated sites is maintained with a particular focus on:	OUT - While the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect, the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
a)	Collaborating on land use and flood management, including natural flood management, through river catchment management plans.	OUT - While the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg river catchments), the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
b)	Enhancing the health and connectivity of habitats.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Expanding woodland on appropriate soils.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Securing protection, restoration of degraded peatland and sustainable management of peat and carbon-rich soils to maintain and improve their ability to store carbon.	OUT - While the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg peatland habitats), the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
e)	No fires permitted on deep peat and reducing burning on shallow peat soils through licensing.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

f)	Reducing deer numbers across the National Park to facilitate woodland expansion, peatland restoration, biodiversity and landscape enhancement.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
g)	Applying a 'green engineering first' approach to flood management and water storage within catchments in the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy A4	Conserve and enhance the special landscape qualities with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Conserving and enhancing wildness qualities.	OUT - while the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg areas of high wildness), the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
b)	Maintaining and promoting dark skies.	OUT - while the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg the dark skies park), the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
c)	Enhancements that also deliver habitat improvements.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Enhancing opportunities to enjoy and experience the landscapes of the Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Applying a presumption against new constructed tracks in open moorland.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

Policy A5	Conserve and enhance habitat quality and connectivity while ensuring the integrity of designated sites is maintained, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Support woodland creation and management, especially natural regeneration, that delivers more natural and native woodland cover to create habitat connections between catchments and minimises need for fencing.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Wetland conservation and enhancement.	OUT - while the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg wetlands), the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
c)	Protection and improvement of the water environment.	OUT - while the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg river catchments), the policy itself is too general to be assessed.
d)	Delivering a combination of ecosystem services including natural flood management, carbon sequestration and storage, timber and food production.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Public greenspace and transport networks managed for biodiversity enhancement and habitat connectivity.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	Supporting off-site mitigation from development that contributes to ecological networks.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy A6	Conserve and enhance the species for which the Cairngorms National Park is most important, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

a)	Species whose conservation status is in decline or at risk.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Tackling and reducing the impacts of invasive non-native species.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Tackling and reducing wildlife crime.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Engaging people on species that are important in the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Promoting biological recording of species in the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	Undertaking appropriate work for species reintroductions or reinforcement as required.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy BI	Deliver a well-being economy in the Cairngorms National Park by strengthening existing business sectors, supporting business start-ups, developing green jobs, supporting diversification, and maintaining the number of workers employed in the Park through:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Maintaining the population of the National Park and maintaining or growing the proportion of the working age population.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Supporting the diversification of existing land-based businesses.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Encouraging growth of business sectors that draw on the special qualities of the National Park, such as sustainable tourism and food and drink.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Support business start-ups and diversification that delivers circular economy benefits.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

e)	Promote the Living Wage for the Cairngorms National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	Broadening the economic base of the National Park into sectors such as the creative industries and renewable energy, and making stronger links with higher and further education.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
g)	Increased provision for business land where there is an identified need and demand; and to support the use of land for small business, particularly within settlements.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
h)	Slowing outward migration of young people; to encourage their return; and the inward migration of workers to the National Park to meet business and community needs.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
i)	Provision of a housing land supply that supports young people and workers and maintains vibrant communities.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
j)	Reducing the proportion of vacant and second homes to support community vibrancy by ensuring that new housing development best meets local needs.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
k)	Maximising the proportion of new housing development that is affordable in perpetuity and using short-term let control areas and licensing of short-term let properties to manage the impact of second homes and short-term lets on the housing market and availability of housing for residents and workers.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy B2	Support and build the capacity of communities to deliver their aspirations, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Supporting communities to plan for their own futures, develop and implement projects, engage the support of partners and share good practice.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Supporting innovative approaches to providing affordable housing to meet local needs.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Supporting communities and landowners to work collaboratively on management of land for shared benefits.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

d)	Aligning community planning processes to simplify support to communities.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Engaging communities effectively in the long-term management of the National Park and in projects or programmes that affect them.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	Supporting community and public sector control of land for development.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy B3	Provide high quality opportunities for access and recreation whilst limiting negative impact on wildlife and communities, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Ensuring a high-quality functional network of active travel, core paths and long-distance routes.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Promoting the health benefits of outdoor recreation and GP-led green health referrals.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Identifying areas where particular management measures are needed in relation to delivering a high-quality visitor experience whilst safeguarding sensitive environments.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Promoting responsible behaviour in enjoying and managing access.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy B4	Provide opportunities for inspiration, learning and understanding through engaging with people, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	.Equalities groups & specifically young people.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Opportunities to support the delivery of the Curriculum for Excellence and education beyond school.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Enhancing volunteering opportunities;	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

d)	Promoting a sense of shared ownership and responsibility towards Scotland's National Parks and rural environment.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Promoting knowledge exchange and sharing development experience between rural areas nationally and internationally.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	The Gaelic language.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy B5	Support under-represented groups to visit, work and live in the National Park and ensure a Park for All, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Equal access and opportunities that are affordable for all.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy C1	Enable sustainable patterns of settlement development, infrastructure and communications while maintaining the integrity of designated sites by:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	consolidating the role of the strategic settlements identified in the current and future Local Development Plans as the most sustainable places for future growth and the focus for housing land supply;	Out - no change from existing approach in LDP (which was subject to separate SEA)
b)	providing any additional flexibility in future land supply for housing at small sites around a wider range of settlements;	Out - too general to enable meaningful assessment
c)	supporting sensitively designed improvements to the A9 and other trunk roads and main railway line as an integral part of enhancing the connectivity of the Highlands;	OUT - while the policy is likely to encourage projects/actions that have an environmental effect in defined locations (eg A9, trunk roads and railway line), the policy itself is too general to be assessed and any such projects/actions would be subject to separate SEA/EIA.
d)	planning and improving integrated and sustainable local transport networks that allow for safe travel off-road and link with public transport;	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

e)	planning and improving integrated public transport that meets the needs of residents and visitors to the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	planning and supporting improvements to the information technology network;	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
g)	planning and supporting improvements to the mobile communications network that improve access to new generation technology and minimise the need for visually intrusive infrastructure.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy C2	Support development of a low carbon economy, with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	increasing renewable energy generation, especially biomass and hydro, that is compatible with conserving the special qualities of the National Park and maintaining the integrity of designated sites. Large-scale wind turbines are not compatible with the landscape character or special landscape qualities of the National Park. They are inappropriate within the National Park or where outside the Park they significantly adversely affect its landscape character or special landscape qualities;	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	supporting businesses and communities to use less energy, reduce emissions, improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings, generate low impact renewable energy, reduce, reuse and recycle resources, and plan for a changing climate;	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	maximising the benefits to communities through direct use of locally generated energy or, where sold to the grid, reinvesting income to support community development;	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	promoting high standards of sustainable design and efficient use of energy and materials in construction.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Electrifying public transport, and increase cycle carrying capacity in trains, buses, and taxis.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

f)	Installing electric car and bike-charging facilities as well as disabled access toilets and changing places at visitor hubs when investing in upgrades or refurbishment.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy C3	Enhance the design and sense of place in new development and existing settlements, in particular:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Enabling new development which contributes positively to the sense of place.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Promoting a high standard of sustainable design, energy efficiency, sustainably sourced materials and construction in new development.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Supporting the retention and enhancement of local character.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Facilitating the rehabilitation of redundant rural buildings and recycling of resources.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Ensuring road upgrades and improvements respond to local landscape character.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
f)	Promoting active travel and public transport provision and reducing the reliance on private motor vehicles.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy C4	Develop plans to help manage visitor pressure in key areas, including:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Ensuring high quality facilities and infrastructure are designed to manage the effects of visitor pressures on the natural heritage and communities.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Enhancing the provision of ranger services to deliver visitor welcome and promote responsible access.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Implementing a no open fires or barbecues outside private garden ground between April and October.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

d)	Reducing waste in remote places.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
e)	Ensuring appropriate transport management to facilitate and enhance the visitor experience.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy C5	Promote sustainable tourism management with a particular focus on:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Co-ordinated approach to responsible tourism and management of the Cairngorms National Park as a visitor destination.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Delivering a visitor / customer experience that spans organisational boundaries.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Providing high-quality co-ordinated information setting visitor experiences in the context of the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Building on and promoting the National Park brand and the promise it delivers.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
Policy C6	Conserve and enhance the cultural heritage that helps to create the sense of place and identity of communities within the National Park by:	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
a)	Protecting archaeological sites and their settings and promoting understanding of their significance.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
b)	Ensuring appropriate advice and investigation for archaeology is used to inform proposals for land use change.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
c)	Protecting and enhancing the built heritage and designed landscapes.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
d)	Promoting opportunities to enjoy and celebrate the cultural heritage of the National Park, including its arts, sports and community heritage.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

Table All – short term actions screening table

Policy	Objective	Actions 2022-2027	Reason for screening in/out
A1	Ensure the Cairngorms National Park reaches net zero by 2045 at the latest and contributes all it can to helping Scotland meet its net zero commitments.	Carbon audit and baseline established for the Cairngorms National Park in 2022. Annual reporting on progress in achieving net-zero for the Cairngorms National Park.	OUT - too process based to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too process based to enable meaningful assessment.
A2	Increase the amount of woodland cover in the National Park to ensure bigger, more natural woodlands, expanding up to a natural treeline, providing connections across river catchments and around the central core of the mountains. The majority of this will be native woodland and will be allowed to regenerate naturally, without the need for planting or fencing.	Expand woodland by a minimum of 7000 ha through delivery of Cairngorms National Park Forest Strategy and targeted grants schemes. Ensure all scales of woodland are considered and supported. Work with land managers to ensure existing woodlands are managed for a range of benefits including timber production, public access, biodiversity etc.	OUT - while there is potential for environmental effects from increasing woodland cover, this will be delivered as part of the existing Forest Strategy, which was subject to separate SEA. OUT - too process based to enable meaningful assessment.
A3	Restore and manage peatland within the National Park to reduce carbon emissions and improve biodiversity.	Restore a minimum of 6500ha of peatland. Increase contractor capacity & job opportunities through peatland skills training programme.	IN - potential for environmental effects and broad location (eg peatland habitats) enables assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

A4	Reduce deer numbers across the National Park to enable woodland to expand, restored peatlands to recover, and wider biodiversity and landscape enhancement to take place.	<p>Work with Deer Management Groups (especially in South of Park) on Land Management Plans to reduce habitat impact and help deliver wider public benefits.</p> <p>Develop better understanding of potential range for deer densities in the future once woodland is established.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
A5	Reduce the intensity of game bird (grouse, pheasant, partridge etc) management within the Park. Encourage lower density grouse shooting, as well as the adoption of best practice management techniques and sustainable pheasant and partridge shooting / releases.	<p>Introduction of grouse moor licencing and other elements of Grouse Review within the Cairngorms National Park.</p> <p>Establish baseline numbers of gamebirds released and impact on biodiversity.</p> <p>Investigate use of CNPA powers to regulate game bird releases in the National Park and develop approach within the Park.</p>	OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.
A6	Stop burning on deep peatlands (currently defined as >50 cm depth) and licence burning on shallower peatlands to reduce carbon emissions and encourage natural regeneration. Reduce wildfire risk by ensuring wildfire action plans are in place.	<p>Identify accurate baseline for deep peat.</p> <p>Develop system for regulating no burn regime.</p> <p>Develop system for licencing muirburn on shallower peats.</p> <p>Investigate use of CNPA powers to regulate fire and develop approach within the Park.</p>	OUT - data gathering and process based, no environmental effects from meeting the actions.

<p>A7</p>	<p>Work with farms in the National Park to reduce their carbon footprint through improved management of grasslands and soil. Help join up habitats and ecosystems through increased woodland and scrub, restoring freshwater areas, and supporting a greater variety of species. Agree carbon and biodiversity management plans with farmers in the National Park to help guide activities.</p>	<p>Develop Nature Friendly Farming projects (woodland, waders, species rich grass) as part of the Cairngorms Nature Action Plan.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment, and the CNAP was subject to separate SEA.</p>
<p>A8</p>	<p>Target rural payments to support sustainable food production, reduce carbon, increase and maintain the health of habitats and ecosystems, enhance biodiversity and help connect different habitats across the National Park. As part of this we will establish a Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework for the National Park which helps national and local government, communities, land owners and stakeholders work together to achieve net zero and find ways to optimise land use in a fair and inclusive way.</p>	<p>Develop and establish a Regional Land Use Framework and Partnership. Develop and support Estate Management Plans.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

A9	Restore and connect rivers to thriving wetlands and floodplains as part of a wider restoration of the National Park's freshwater systems, helping mitigate the impacts of climate change.	Deliver Catchment Management Plans.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
A10	Connect habitats and ecosystems across all different types of land use in the National Park to create an ecological network, which will bring wider landscape, biodiversity and people benefits.	Cairngorms Nature Networks – a spatial mapping of potential and strategic areas for expanding, enhancing and increasing connectivity of habitats and species in the Park.	OUT - process based, no environmental effect from meeting this target.
A11	Enhance ecosystems across the National Park by increasing the area of land managed principally for their restoration.	Revise and deliver Cairngorms Nature Action Plan. Work with Cairngorms Connect, East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership and others to expand the area of the Park under ecosystem restoration.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment (and CNAP is subject to separate SEA for the more detailed actions within it).
A12	Develop a more complete understanding of the National Park's species, habitats and ecosystems, and help monitor progress over the long-term through a dedicated Cairngorms Nature Index.	Establish Cairngorms Nature Index. Establish Cairngorms Nature Atlas/ data portal. Monitor changes in Special Landscape Qualities.	OUT - process based / information management, no environmental effect from meeting these targets.

A13	Manage sites designated to increase the diversity of species present, improve habitats, store carbon and build resilience to climate change. These benefits will be delivered alongside current commitments to maintain and enhance designated features within the area.	Develop approach to designations in the Park to help deliver ecological restoration and net-zero. NatureScot Conservation Advice Packages developed.	OUT - process based, no environmental effect from meeting this target. OUT - information provision, no environmental effect from meeting this target.
A14	Protect vulnerable species and ensure they get back on a sustainable footing, less reliant on targeted action and recovering within a network of habitats. Where necessary, reinforce existing populations and reintroduce lost species as part of a suite of measures to restore biodiversity in the National Park. Ensure species and habitat management adapts to a changing climate.	Deliver Species Recovery Plans for priority species through Cairngorms Nature Action Plan. Apply Scottish Government policy to facilitate species reintroduction. Reduce wildlife crime as an issue in the Park with a specific focus eliminating it as a constraint on raptor numbers and expansion in the National Park.	OUT - CNAP is subject to separate SEA that will take account of delivery of species recovery plans. OUT - process based, no environmental effect from meeting this target. OUT - while reducing wildlife crime should benefit raptors, the target is not specific enough in terms of how this will be done to enable meaningful assessment.
A15	Attract private green investment into the National Park to fund nature's recovery and share the benefits between communities, land owners, workers and wider society. Private finance will be as important as public money in funding nature's recovery given the scale of the climate and biodiversity challenges we face.	Trial a green finance project for peatland restoration in the Park. Explore green finance opportunities at landscape scale and for a wider range of benefits including local community benefit. Identify a pipeline of projects within the National Park over the next 5 years.	OUT - process based, no environmental effect from meeting these targets.

A16	Work with farmers, estates and other land-based businesses to protect, manage and restore habitats and ecosystems across the National Park. Use 'nature-based solutions' to support a diverse economy that will be an exemplar for rural economies across the UK.	See Objectives B3, B5 and associated actions.	OUT - too general (see B3 and B5).
A17	Ensure a wider range of people are involved in, benefit from and support activities that protect and enhance nature and tackle climate change in the National Park.	See Objective B12 and associated actions.	OUT - too general (see B12).
B1.	Work to ensure the resident population of the National Park stabilises and reflects a diversity of backgrounds, enabling our communities to flourish.	Develop and implement Local Development Plan	OUT - too general, also LDP is subject to separate SEA.
B2.	Work to stabilise or increase the proportion of young and working age people in the National Park relative to the total population.		

B3.	Develop a well-being economy that encourages diversification, attracts sustainable inward investment and builds on the existing strengths of the Cairngorms. Economic activity in the National Park is based on its special qualities; we will prioritise opportunities that provide year-round employment and well-being for communities across the National Park, as well as those that promote a circular economy, helping reduce waste and our wider impact on the environment.	<p>Develop and implement Well-Being Economy Action Plan that includes support for business start-up and diversification into circular economy opportunities.</p> <p>Develop further the evidence base to underpin the importance of the natural environment to the local economy.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general / data gathering to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
B4.	Increase the number of Living Wage employers in the National Park.	Undertake audit, promote best practice and regular reports.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B5.	Significantly increasing skills and re-training opportunities for people in the Park, with emphasis on land use sector, to ensure opportunities can be taken by local people.	<p>Support skills training programmes relevant to business needs and changes in land management within the National Park.</p> <p>Develop scholarships and mentoring scheme for young people who want to study and continue to live or be employed in the National Park.</p>	OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting this target.
B6.	Increase the area of land in the Park that is in community ownership, or where the community is directly involved in its management.	See overleaf as B6 – B9 have combined actions.	

B7.	Empower individuals to make decisions about their local community through citizens' assemblies and juries. Support community councils to become stronger local democratic bodies that plan for their local areas and allocate resources.	Identify opportunities through refreshed set of Community Action Plans/Local Place Plans.	OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting these targets.
B8.	Support communities across the National Park to access funding for their community-led local development priorities and encourage community-led activities that help achieve priorities identified in the Partnership Plan.	Align support mechanisms for communities investigating ownership or influence over land. Develop targeted skills initiative to support social enterprises.	
B9.	Increase the number of assets in community ownership and support the development of social enterprises that generate a profit within the National Park.	Support community access to locally administered funding, replacing previous EU sourced LEADER and structural funds at a level at least equivalent to the 2014 – 2020 programme	
B10.	Encourage greater use of Gaelic in the National Park.	Public bodies implement Gaelic language plans. Develop suite of support tools in collaboration with local businesses and cultural organisations.	

B11.	Help improve the mental and physical health of the people of the National Park.	<p>Expand work with equality groups in cities and towns around the National Park to increase visitors from those groups.</p> <p>Refresh the 'Park for All' campaign to address barriers to participation from groups / sectors that find it challenging to enjoy the National Park.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
B12.	The visitor profile to the National Park will be more diverse, with a greater proportion of visitors from disabled groups, lower socio-economic backgrounds and minority and ethnic groups. Targeted support will be provided to programmes and projects that reduce inequalities for residents and visitors alike and help to make 'a Park for All'.	<p>Expand work with equality groups in cities and towns around the National Park to increase visitors from those groups.</p> <p>Refresh the 'Park for All' campaign to address barriers to participation from groups / sectors that find it challenging to enjoy the National Park.</p>	<p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
B13	Engage with people across the National Park through formal and informal education, increase the number of volunteer days spent caring for the National Park, and ensure that young people have a significant role in helping to manage the National Park.	<p>Develop and expand CNP Volunteer Rangers expanding their support to include all communities.</p> <p>Develop and expand the Cairngorms Junior Ranger Programme.</p> <p>Support communities in maintaining and improving their local environment (path network, litter collection, open spaces, species and habitat etc).</p>	<p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

C1.	Work to stabilise the growth in the number of people who visit the Cairngorms National Park during the peak season, while ensuring their enjoyment of the National Park and time spent here increases. The focus for any growth should be on the off-peak season and on those areas that have capacity to manage extra visitors.	Review, update and deliver Cairngorms Tourism Action Plan with increased emphasis on sustainable and active travel and travel, longer dwell times and marketing to promote responsible enjoyment to the Park. Collect and share high quality data on visitor use, behaviour perceptions and aspirations.	OUT - too general / data gathering, also the Tourism Action Plan should be subject to separate SEA on the detailed contents.
C2.	The National Park is an international exemplar in the management of sustainable tourism and management of protected areas.	Maintain the Park's status as holder of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C3.	Encourage a transformative change in the way people get to and move around the Park	Establish programme for ebike hire and charging facilities in all main settlements and major visitor hubs. Pilot park and ride and park and bike projects at key visitor hubs. Review bus contracts to deliver improved services for workers, communities and visitors, including capacity for bikes.	OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.

C4.	Improve path, cycle and access networks to be the best in Scotland.	<p>Develop and implement new Cairngorms Strategic Infrastructure Plan.</p> <p>Complete Deeside Way extension to Braemar and increase promotion of the Speyside Way.</p> <p>Promote sustainable maintenance of paths infrastructure and creation of new visitor infrastructure improvements.</p> <p>Develop and implement Managing for Visitor Plans for key areas of the National Park.</p>	<p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment, also the Strategic Infrastructure Plan should be subject to separate SEA on the detailed contents.</p> <p>IN - potential for environmental effects in a specific location (Deeside Way extension) and OUT - too general / process based for the Speyside way.</p> <p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
C5.	Work closely with partners across the National Park to manage the impact of visitors and provide a high-quality experience. Ensure public infrastructure is of a high standard, able to cope with demand at key destinations, and consider how to best utilise areas of the Park with capacity for increased visitor numbers.	<p>Complete provision of superfast broadband across National Park including delivery of R100 programme ultrafast broadband for main settlements.</p> <p>Implement Cairngorm Mountain Masterplan.</p>	<p>OUT - provision of broadband as part of the R100 programme is not controlled by CNPA and will have been subject to separate environmental assessment</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment, and the masterplan will be subject to separate environmental assessment on its detailed content when submitted.</p>
C6.	Provide outstanding opportunities to experience the natural and cultural heritage of the National Park via our promoted path network, while minimising disturbance to vulnerable species, habitats and sites.	See C4, C5 and C6.	See C4, C5 and C6.

C7.	Provide opportunities for everyone to experience it and learn about the National Park's outstanding historic environment, history and culture, with the Cairngorms being celebrated for its cultural heritage.	<p>Care for and promote a cultural heritage network, building on the work of the Badenoch: The Storylands project, Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership and Cateran Ecomuseum.</p> <p>Provide seed funding for community heritage projects that contribute to a cultural heritage network.</p>	OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.
C8.	Ensure that there is sufficient housing stock to enable people to live and work within the National Park. Ensure the private rented sector provides appropriate security of tenure for people working in the National Park.	<p>Introduce Short-term Let Control Areas and Short-term Let Licensing to increase the supply of midmarket properties available for local residents and workers.</p> <p>Secure investment in the private rented sector to provide long term housing for workers and local people.</p> <p>Develop partnership approaches led by local businesses to address accommodation needs for workers.</p>	<p>IN - potential for environmental effects.</p> <p>OUT - too general/process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general/process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

C9.	Help resolve key worker and affordability issues with new housing in the National Park.	<p>Deliver at least 200 new affordable and mid-market rent homes through local authority Strategic Housing Investment Plans and affordable housing delivery programmes.</p> <p>Use the next LDP to identify locations where more than 25% affordable housing is required.</p> <p>Continue to support communities to deliver community-led housing solutions, including by making the most of powers to buy land and taking a more pro-active role in management where appropriate.</p>	<p>OUT - too general /delivered by other organisations with plans that should be subject to separate SEA on the detailed content.</p> <p>OUT - too general and the next LDP will be subject to separate SEA.</p> <p>OUT - too general/process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
C10.	Work with communities to ensure that the majority of land allocated for development around villages and towns in the National Park is controlled by communities or public bodies to help manage long-term development needs.	<p>Review options and funding for public sector purchase of allocated development land.</p> <p>Support communities to use existing options to control land for development they need.</p>	<p>OUT - too general/process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
C11.	Take action to ensure villages and town centres in the National Park are thriving places where people live, shop and meet.	<p>Review mechanisms available to public sector to encourage regeneration of town and village centres.</p> <p>Introduce measures to reduce vacant properties caused by unrealistic rent expectations.</p>	<p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

Table AIII – long term objectives and targets screening table

Policy	Objective	Long term target/indicator	Reason for screening in/out
A1	Ensure the Cairngorms National Park reaches net zero by 2045 at the latest and contributes all it can to helping Scotland meet its net zero commitments.	Annual progress report on net zero for the Cairngorms National Park.	OUT - while there is potential for environmental effects from achieving net-zero, the action being process based does not enable meaningful assessment.
A2	Increase the amount of woodland cover in the National Park to ensure bigger, more natural woodlands, expanding up to a natural treeline, providing connections across river catchments and around the central core of the mountains. The majority of this will be native woodland and will be allowed to regenerate naturally, without the need for planting or fencing.	A minimum of 35,000 ha of new woodland cover created by 2045.	OUT - while there is potential for environmental effects from increasing woodland cover, this will be delivered as part of the existing Forest Strategy, which was subject to separate SEA.
A3	Restore and manage peatland within the National Park to reduce carbon emissions and improve biodiversity.	A minimum of 35,000 ha peatland restored by 2045.	IN - potential for environmental effects and broad location (eg peatland habitats) enables assessment.

A4	Reduce deer numbers across the National Park to enable woodland to expand, restored peatlands to recover, and wider biodiversity and landscape enhancement to take place.	<p>Average red deer densities on the open range are between five to eight per km² across the National Park by 2030.</p> <p>Sika and fallow deer (non-native species) will be contained within their current distribution in the National Park by 2030.</p> <p>Establish deer population in the woodlands of the National Park by 2025.</p>	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
A5	Reduce the intensity of game bird (grouse, pheasant, partridge etc) management within the Park. Encourage lower density grouse shooting, as well as the adoption of best practice management techniques and sustainable pheasant and partridge shooting / releases.	<p>Average game bird bags per unit area.</p> <p>Numbers of game birds released in the National Park.</p>	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
A6	Stop burning on deep peatlands (currently defined as >50 cm depth) and licence burning on shallower peatlands to reduce carbon emissions and encourage natural regeneration. Reduce wildfire risk by ensuring wildfire action plans are in place.	<p>No muirburn on peatland soils of over 50cm depth and burning on shallower peats regulated by licensing by 2023.</p> <p>Wildfire actions plans cover the whole National Park by 2024.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

<p>A7</p>	<p>Work with farms in the National Park to reduce their carbon footprint through improved management of grasslands and soil. Help join up habitats and ecosystems through increased woodland and scrub, restoring freshwater areas, and supporting a greater variety of species. Agree carbon and biodiversity management plans with farmers in the National Park to help guide activities.</p>	<p>Carbon and biodiversity plans are in place for farms across the National Park by 2028.</p>	<p>OUT - too general / process based to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
<p>A8</p>	<p>Target rural payments to support sustainable food production, reduce carbon, increase and maintain the health of habitats and ecosystems, enhance biodiversity and help connect different habitats across the National Park. As part of this we will establish a Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework for the National Park which helps national and local government, communities, land owners and stakeholders work together to achieve net zero and find ways to optimise land use in a fair and inclusive way.</p>	<p>Establish a Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework for the National Park by 2023.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

A9	Restore and connect rivers to thriving wetlands and floodplains as part of a wider restoration of the National Park's freshwater systems, helping mitigate the impacts of climate change.	75% of river systems are restored by 2045.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
A10	Connect habitats and ecosystems across all different types of land use in the National Park to create an ecological network, which will bring wider landscape, biodiversity and people benefits.	Establish an ecological network across the National Park by 2025.	OUT - process based, no environmental effect from meeting this target.
A11	Enhance ecosystems across the National Park by increasing the area of land managed principally for their restoration.	At least 50% of the National Park to be managed for ecosystem restoration by 2045.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
A12	Develop a more complete understanding of the National Park's species, habitats and ecosystems, and help monitor progress over the long-term through a dedicated Cairngorms Nature Index.	Develop and roll out the Cairngorms Nature Index by 2023.	OUT - process based / information management, no environmental effect from meeting this target.
A13	Manage sites designated to increase the diversity of species present, improve habitats, store carbon and build resilience to climate change. These benefits will be delivered alongside current commitments to maintain and enhance designated features within the area.	Designated sites contribute to ecological network and ecosystem restoration.	OUT -too general to enable meaningful assessment.

A14	Protect vulnerable species and ensure they get back on a sustainable footing, less reliant on targeted action and recovering within a network of habitats. Where necessary, reinforce existing populations and reintroduce lost species as part of a suite of measures to restore biodiversity in the National Park. Ensure species and habitat management adapts to a changing climate.	Species Recovery Curve.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
A15	Attract private green investment into the National Park to fund nature's recovery and share the benefits between communities, land owners, workers and wider society. Private finance will be as important as public money in funding nature's recovery given the scale of the climate and biodiversity challenges we face.	The Cairngorms National Park attracts a minimum of £250m of green finance for carbon and biodiversity projects by 2045.	OUT - process based, no environmental effect from meeting these targets.
A16	Work with farmers, estates and other land-based businesses to protect, manage and restore habitats and ecosystems across the National Park. Use 'nature-based solutions' to support a diverse economy that will be an exemplar for rural economies across the UK.	The number of land based businesses using nature-based solutions increases.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

A17	Ensure a wider range of people are involved in, benefit from and support activities that protect and enhance nature and tackle climate change in the National Park.	Conduct regular surveys on values and attitudes to nature restoration, land management and landscape change.	OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting this target.
B1.	Work to ensure the resident population of the National Park stabilises and reflects a diversity of backgrounds, enabling our communities to flourish.	The overall population stabilises between 2020 and 2045.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B2.	Work to stabilise or increase the proportion of young and working age people in the National Park relative to the total population.	The proportion of young people and working age people in the National Park stabilises or increases between 2020 and 2045.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B3.	Develop a well-being economy that encourages diversification, attracts sustainable inward investment and builds on the existing strengths of the Cairngorms. Economic activity in the National Park is based on its special qualities; we will prioritise opportunities that provide year-round employment and well-being for communities across the National Park, as well as those that promote a circular economy, helping reduce waste and our wider impact on the environment.	<p>There will be a change in the percentage breakdown of different economic sectors within the National Park.</p> <p>Develop Cairngorms Cornerstone Indicators for a well-being economy.</p> <p>An increase in employee-owned or managed businesses in the National Park.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting this target.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

B4.	Increase the number of Living Wage employers in the National Park.	The Park will have the highest proportion of Living Wage employers in rural Scotland by 2030.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B5.	Significantly increasing skills and re-training opportunities for people in the Park, with emphasis on land use sector, to ensure opportunities can be taken by local people.	<p>There are an increasing number of apprenticeships within the National Park.</p> <p>An increasing number of people living in the National Park pass through skills training programmes for nature-based solutions.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
B6.	Increase the area of land in the Park that is in community ownership, or where the community is directly involved in its management.	<p>Identify opportunities through refreshed set of Community Action Plans/Local Place Plans.</p> <p>Align support mechanisms for communities investigating ownership or influence over land.</p> <p>Develop targeted skills initiative to support social enterprises.</p> <p>Support community access to locally administered funding, replacing previous EU sourced LEADER and structural funds at a level at least equivalent to the 2014 – 2020 programme</p>	OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting these targets.

B7.	Empower individuals to make decisions about their local community through citizens' assemblies and juries. Support community councils to become stronger local democratic bodies that plan for their local areas and allocate resources.	Citizens' assemblies and juries are established.	OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting these targets.
B8.	Support communities across the National Park to access funding for their community-led local development priorities and encourage community-led activities that help achieve priorities identified in the Partnership Plan.	Community-led local development funding equivalent to at least 2014 (EU-based) programme levels is made available for distribution through a National Park-based governance mechanism.	OUT - process based, no environmental effects from meeting these targets.
B9.	Increase the number of assets in community ownership and support the development of social enterprises that generate a profit within the National Park.	The numbers of assets in community ownership or management triples from 2021. The percentage of community organisations' income from social enterprises increases.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B10.	Encourage greater use of Gaelic in the National Park.	More businesses using Gaelic in their promotional material.	OUT - no change to current practice / too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B11.	Help improve the mental and physical health of the people of the National Park.	The physical activity levels of the 25% least active National Park residents will have increased by 2030. Mental health Indicator TBD.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

B12.	The visitor profile to the National Park will be more diverse, with a greater proportion of visitors from disabled groups, lower socio-economic backgrounds and minority and ethnic groups. Targeted support will be provided to programmes and projects that reduce inequalities for residents and visitors alike and help to make 'a Park for All'.	The breakdown of visitors from Scotland to the National Park will more closely resemble the overall demography of Scotland. Increased participation from under-represented groups	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
B13	Engage with people across the National Park through formal and informal education, increase the number of volunteer days spent caring for the National Park, and ensure that young people have a significant role in helping to manage the National Park.	At least 200 volunteer rangers in the National Park by 2030. Increase the number of National Park volunteer days every year up to and including 2045. An increase in the number of John Muir Awards undertaken within the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C1.	Work to stabilise the growth in the number of people who visit the Cairngorms National Park during the peak season, while ensuring their enjoyment of the National Park and time spent here increases. The focus for any growth should be on the off-peak season and on those areas that have capacity to manage extra visitors.	Overall tourism numbers and visitor days during peak season stabilise at around the current levels. Visitor satisfaction remains high and stable. Increase in off-peak visitor days.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

C2.	The National Park is an international exemplar in the management of sustainable tourism and management of protected areas.	The Cairngorms continues to hold the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C3.	Encourage a transformative change in the way people get to and move around the Park	<p>50% of journeys by visitors and residents within the National Park do not take place by car by 2030.</p> <p>25% of visitors get to the National Park by public transport by 2045.</p> <p>E-bike hire and charging facilities will be available in all main settlements and major visitor hubs by 2030.</p> <p>People will be able to bring their own bikes to the National Park on all public transport by 2030.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>
C4.	Improve path, cycle and access networks to be the best in Scotland.	<p>All communities are linked by safe off-road or segregated on-road routes suitable for all users by 2030.</p> <p>All core paths are in good condition.</p>	<p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p> <p>OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.</p>

C5.	Work closely with partners across the National Park to manage the impact of visitors and provide a high-quality experience. Ensure public infrastructure is of a high standard, able to cope with demand at key destinations, and consider how to best utilise areas of the Park with capacity for increased visitor numbers.	Reports on the number of public toilets, changing places toilets and campervan facilities within the National Park. Broadband and mobile connectivity in the National Park.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment. OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C6.	Provide outstanding opportunities to experience the natural and cultural heritage of the National Park via our promoted path network, while minimising disturbance to vulnerable species, habitats and sites.	Key path condition and usage.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C7.	Provide opportunities for everyone to experience it and learn about the National Park's outstanding historic environment, history and culture, with the Cairngorms being celebrated for its cultural heritage.	Number of cultural heritage projects promoted in visitor marketing.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C8.	Ensure that there is sufficient housing stock to enable people to live and work within the National Park. Ensure the private rented sector provides appropriate security of tenure for people working in the National Park.	A maximum of 15% of all housing stock in the National Park will be second homes, vacant or short-term let properties by 2040.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

C9.	Help resolve key worker and affordability issues with new housing in the National Park.	75% of new housing built is for social rental and / or mid-market rental and is directly linked to meeting the needs of local employers by 2030.	OUT - too general /delivered by other Plans (eg LDP) that should be subject to separate SEA on the detailed content.
C10.	Work with communities to ensure that the majority of land allocated for development around villages and towns in the National Park is controlled by communities or public bodies to help manage long-term development needs.	The percentage of developable land in community or public body ownership is increasing.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.
C11.	Take action to ensure villages and town centres in the National Park are thriving places where people live, shop and meet.	The percentage of vacant properties on high streets of the National Park reduces.	OUT - too general to enable meaningful assessment.

Table AIV – assessment for Objective A3, peatland restoration

Assessor(s):		Nina Caudrey, Planning Officer			
Date of assessment completion:		20 September 2021			
SECTION OF PLAN BEING ASSESSED:		Objective A3, long term target: By 2045 minimum of 35,000ha peatland restored. and short term (2022 – 2027) target: Restore a minimum of 6500ha of peatland.			
ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS					
SEA objective	SEA sub-objective	Nature of effect	Scoring: significance of effect before mitigation)	Mitigation and enhancement	Scoring: residual significance of effect after mitigation
1a	Will there be an effect on energy conservation and efficiency in new development?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to built development.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
1a	Will there be an effect on the production of renewable energy of appropriate scale for the Park?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to renewable energy.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
1a	Will there be an effect on local production and use of materials and food produce?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to production or use of materials/food.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

1a	Will there be an effect on carbon sinks (such as woodlands and peatlands)?	Yes, through restoration of exposed eroding areas of peat to functioning peatland habitat, which is a carbon capture and sink.	++	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
1a	Will there be an effect on travel that produces greenhouse gas emissions?	No. While contractors will have to travel to carry out works, this will be incidental and not significant in the wider volume of traffic in the National Park.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
1b	Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on existing infrastructure and buildings?	No. The peatlands in the National Park that are suitable for restoration tend to be located far from existing buildings and infrastructure.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

1b	Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on infrastructure and buildings proposed in the Local Development Plan?	No. The peatlands in the National Park that are suitable for restoration tend to be located far from existing settlements and infrastructure, which is where the LDP focusses future development.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
2a	Will there be an effect on the levels of UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , SO ₂)?	No. While contractors will have to travel to carry out works, this will be incidental and not significant in the wider volume of traffic in the National Park and the pollutants fossil fuelled vehicles produce.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
2a	Will there be an effect on the levels of other types of air pollution (eg particulates)?	No. While contractors will have to travel to carry out works, this will be incidental and not significant in the wider volume of traffic in the National Park and the particulates fossil fuelled vehicles produce.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

3a	Will there be an effect on the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water from diffuse and point source pollution?	No. While eroding peatland can pollute water, the area and locations of existing eroding peat is not known to be causing a significant issue in the National Park.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3a	Will there be an effect on the ability of river catchments to store water and the natural flood management services they provide?	Yes, through improved functioning of restored peatland habitats enabling natural water retention.	++	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
3a	Will there be an effect on public water supplies?	No. While eroding peatland can pollute water, the area and locations of existing eroding peat is not known to be causing a significant issue in the National Park.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3b	Will there be an effect on demand for water from development (residential and business)?	N/a as NPPP Objective A2 does not relate to built development.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3b	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of water resources?	N/a as NPPP Objective A2 does not relate to built development.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

3c	Will there be an effect on the water environment from invasive non-native species?	No. The restoration of peatland should not introduce non-native species.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on carbon rich soils, in particular peat?	Yes - through improved functioning of restored peatland habitats enabling natural water retention.	++	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
4a	Will there be an effect on soil sealing, soil structure and soil loss?	No as no development would occur that would cause soil sealing.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on the levels of soil contamination?	No, peatland restoration should not cause contamination.	0	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
4a	Will there be an effect on soil erosion and landslides?	Yes - through restoration of exposed eroding areas of peat to functioning peatland habitat.	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
4a	Will there be an effect on geodiversity interests (eg GCRs)?	No as the restoration of peatland habitats would not affect geological interests underneath (if present).	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

5a	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of natural resources (eg water, timber, aggregates)?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to production or use of natural resources.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
5a	Will there be an effect on the sustainable use and management of existing and proposed infrastructure (eg water, heat, energy or flood protection infrastructure)?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to built development infrastructure.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
5a	Will there be an effect on the use of finite resources through the use of secondary and recycled materials?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to production or use of finite resources.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on the favourable condition of areas protected for nature conservation?	Potentially, if areas restored are part of or connected to areas protected for nature conservation. Individual projects will be subject to screening for environmental effects by NatureScot where relevant, ensuring that they do not adversely affect areas protected for nature conservation.	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same

6a	Will there be an effect on protected species?	Yes - there is potential to have an effect on protected species (eg breeding birds) reliant on peatland habitats (eg waders such as curlew).	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan habitats and plants?	Yes - contributes to CNAP aim to restore peatland habitats.	++	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan bird and mammal species?	Yes - there is potential to have an effect on species reliant on peatland habitats, such as waders.	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
6a	Will there be an effect on wider biodiversity (outwith protected areas and the habitats and species identified in the CNAP) in the National Park?	No. While there are likely to be benefits to other biodiversity as a result of peatland restoration, this will not be at a significant level.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on deer management practices that seek to reduce environmental effects?	No there will not be direct effects on deer management as a result of the activity of peatland restoration.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

6a	Will there be an effect on land management practices that seek to avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases?	No there will not be an effect on land management practices seeking to avoid the introduction of non-native species or tree diseases.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
7a	Will there be an effect on the special qualities of the National Park landscapes?	Potentially, if areas restored are large and visually obvious, where erosion was detracting from the landscape and visual experience.	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
7a	Will there be an effect landscape character and local distinctiveness?	Potentially, if areas restored are large and visually obvious, where erosion was detracting from the landscape and visual experience.	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
7b	Will there be an effect on the historic and cultural environment and assets (including linguistic)?	No. The peatlands in the National Park that are suitable for restoration tend to be located far from existing buildings or structures of cultural significance.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
8a	Will there be an effect on housing for local needs?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to built development.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

8a	Will there be an effect on recreation and active travel opportunities that support healthier lifestyles?	N/a as NPPP objective A2 is not related to recreation or active travel.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
8a	Will there be an effect on employment opportunities local to places of residence?	Potentially, if local contractors are upskilled and able to carry out peatland restoration works.	+	As the effects of peatland restoration are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same

Table AV – assessment for Objective C4, Deeside Way extension

Assessor(s):		Nina Caudrey, Planning Officer			
Date of assessment completion:		20 September 2021			
SECTION OF PLAN BEING ASSESSED:		Objective C4, short term action - Complete Deeside Way extension to Braemar (see https://www.eplanningnpa.co.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PFWV83SI0CH00&activeTab=summary for the planning permission and associated documents)			
ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS					
SEA objective	SEA sub-objective	Nature of effect	Scoring: significance of effect before mitigation	Mitigation and enhancement	Scoring: residual significance of effect after mitigation
la	Will there be an effect on energy conservation and efficiency in new development?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
la	Will there be an effect on the production of renewable energy of appropriate scale for the Park?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to renewable energy.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
la	Will there be an effect on local production and use of materials and food produce?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to production or use of materials/food.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
la	Will there be an effect on carbon sinks (such as woodlands and peatlands)?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to development.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

Ia	Will there be an effect on travel that produces greenhouse gas emissions?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to travel.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
Ib	Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on existing infrastructure and buildings?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to existing built development or infrastructure.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
Ib	Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on infrastructure and buildings proposed in the Local Development Plan?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to future built development or infrastructure.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

2a	Will there be an effect on the levels of UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , SO ₂)?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to activities that produce pollutants.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
2a	Will there be an effect on the levels of other types of air pollution (eg particulates)?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to activities that produce particulate pollutants.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3a	Will there be an effect on the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water from diffuse and point source pollution?	Potential for sediment release during construction to enter the River Dee, affecting water quality.	-	A HRA was carried out that concluded there would be no adverse effect on site integrity for the River Dee SAC. A Construction Method Statement and a condition requiring an Ecological Clerk of Works are part of the planning permission, so appropriate mitigation has been built into the proposal and planning permission, to minimise the potential effects on the water environment as much as possible. Further mitigation/enhancement is not required.	0

3a	Will there be an effect on the ability of river catchments to store water and the natural flood management services they provide?	No, there will be no change to river catchments ability to store water.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3a	Will there be an effect on public water supplies?	No, there will be no effects on public water supplies.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3b	Will there be an effect on demand for water from development (residential and business)?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to built development that has a water demand.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3b	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of water resources?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to built development that has a water demand.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3c	Will there be an effect on the water environment from invasive non-native species?	No. The creation of the path extension should not introduce non-native species.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on carbon rich soils, in particular peat?	No, carbon rich soils are not present in this location.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

4a	Will there be an effect on soil sealing, soil structure and soil loss?	Yes, there will be some soil sealing, albeit by a permeable path surface.	-	As soil sealing is inevitable as part of path creation, albeit with a permeable path surface, and a CMS is in place to contain development, no further mitigation or enhancements are feasible or necessary.	-
4a	Will there be an effect on the levels of soil contamination?	No, the creation of the path extension should not create contamination.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on soil erosion and landslides?	No, the creation of the path extension should not create erosion or landslides.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on geodiversity interests (eg GCRs)?	N/a as no GCR sites at this location.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
5a	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of natural resources (eg water, timber, aggregates)?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to production or use of natural resources.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

5a	Will there be an effect on the sustainable use and management of existing and proposed infrastructure (eg water, heat, energy or flood protection infrastructure)?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to built development infrastructure.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
5a	Will there be an effect on the use of finite resources through the use of secondary and recycled materials?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to production or use of finite resources.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

6a	Will there be an effect on the favourable condition of areas protected for nature conservation?	Potentially from sediment release during construction and disturbance to otter, as the route passes over the River Dee SAC, albeit on an existing bridge. The route also passes through Creag Clunie & the Lions Face SSSI, Ballochbuie SPA and SAC.	-	A HRA was carried out that concluded there would be no adverse effect on site integrity for the European sites. Species protection plans, a Construction Method Statement and a condition requiring an Ecological Clerk of Works are part of the planning permission, so appropriate mitigation has been built into the proposal and planning permission, to minimise the potential effects on areas protected for nature conservation as much as possible. There remains a small effect but it is not considered that this is significant. Further mitigation/enhancement is not required.	0
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6a	Will there be an effect on protected species?	Yes, red squirrel and breeding birds (Scottish crossbill) were identified in the ecological surveys carried out to support the planning permission.	-	Species protection plans, a Construction Method Statement and a condition requiring an Ecological Clerk of Works are part of the planning permission, so appropriate mitigation has been built into the proposal and planning permission, to minimise the potential effects as much as possible. There remains a small effect but it is not considered that this is significant. Further mitigation/enhancement is not required.	0
6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan habitats and plants?	Yes, the proposed path would result in the permanent loss of 0.3ha of Caledonian pine wood (albeit 3 mature birch trees and ground flora rather than Scots pine) and approximately 80m ² of blanket bog (peatland/wetland). However the HRA concludes no adverse effect on site integrity for the SAC due to the scale and location of the works.	-	No mitigation was identified in the HRA to address habitat loss, therefore no change to the scoring.	-

6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan bird and mammal species?	Yes, capercaillie from the Ballochbuie SPA were identified in the ecological surveys carried out to support the planning permission.	--	A HRA was carried out that concluded there would be no adverse effect on site integrity for the European sites. Species protection plans, a Construction Method Statement and a condition requiring an Ecological Clerk of Works are part of the planning permission, so appropriate mitigation has been built into the proposal and planning permission, to minimise the potential effects on species and habitats important for nature conservation as much as possible. There remains a small effect but it is not considered that this is significant. Further mitigation/enhancement is not required.	0
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6a	Will there be an effect on wider biodiversity (outwith protected areas and the habitats and species identified in the CNAP) in the National Park?	No. While there are likely to be effects on other biodiversity as a result of the path creation, this will not be at a significant level.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on deer management practices that seek to reduce environmental effects?	No there will not be direct effects on deer management as a result of the path creation.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on land management practices that seek to avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases?	No there will not be an effect on land management practices seeking to avoid the introduction of non-native species or tree diseases.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
7a	Will there be an effect on the special qualities of the National Park landscapes?	No. The proposal was assessed at planning application stage and no significant effects were identified.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
7a	Will there be an effect landscape character and local distinctiveness?	No. The proposal was assessed at planning application stage and no significant effects were identified.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

7b	Will there be an effect on the historic and cultural environment and assets (including linguistic)?	No, no changes are proposed to historic and cultural environment assets.	0	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
8a	Will there be an effect on housing for local needs?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to housing.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
8a	Will there be an effect on recreation and active travel opportunities that support healthier lifestyles?	Yes, there should be an increase in people walking the route (and undertaking other forms of exercise such as running and cycling), improving the health of participants.	+	As the effects of increased participation in walking (and other forms of exercise) are positive, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	n/a as the scoring remains the same
8a	Will there be an effect on employment opportunities local to places of residence?	N/a as NPPP objective C4 is not related to employment.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

Table AVI – assessment for Objective C8, short term lets

Assessor(s):		Nina Caudrey, Planning Officer			
Date of assessment completion:		20 September 2021			
SECTION OF PLAN BEING ASSESSED:		Objective C8, short term action: Introduce Short-term Let Control Areas and Short-term Let Licensing to increase the supply of midmarket properties available for local residents and workers.			
ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS					
SEA objective	SEA sub-objective	Nature of effect	Scoring: significance of effect before mitigation	Mitigation and enhancement	Scoring: residual significance of effect after mitigation
la	Will there be an effect on energy conservation and efficiency in new development?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
la	Will there be an effect on the production of renewable energy of appropriate scale for the Park?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is not related to renewable energy.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
la	Will there be an effect on local production and use of materials and food produce?	N/a as NPPP Objective C8 is not related to production or use of materials.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
la	Will there be an effect on carbon sinks (such as woodlands and peatlands)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

Ia	Will there be an effect on travel that produces greenhouse gas emissions?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
Ib	Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on existing infrastructure and buildings?	N/a, as NPPP objective C8 is related to use of existing buildings rather than new development that would have climate related effects on existing infrastructure or buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
Ib	Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on infrastructure and buildings proposed in the Local Development Plan?	N/a, as NPPP objective C8 is related to use of existing buildings rather than new development that would have climate related effects on existing infrastructure or buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

2a	Will there be an effect on the levels of UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , SO ₂)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
2a	Will there be an effect on the levels of other types of air pollution (eg particulates)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3a	Will there be an effect on the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water from diffuse and point source pollution?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3a	Will there be an effect on the ability of river catchments to store water and the natural flood management services they provide?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3a	Will there be an effect on public water supplies?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

3b	Will there be an effect on demand for water from development (residential and business)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3b	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of water resources?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
3c	Will there be an effect on the water environment from invasive non-native species?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on carbon rich soils, in particular peat?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on soil sealing, soil structure and soil loss?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on the levels of soil contamination?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on soil erosion and landslides?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
4a	Will there be an effect on geodiversity interests (eg GCRs)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

5a	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of natural resources (eg water, timber, aggregates)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
5a	Will there be an effect on the sustainable use and management of existing and proposed infrastructure (eg water, heat, energy or flood protection infrastructure)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
5a	Will there be an effect on the use of finite resources through the use of secondary and recycled materials?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on the favourable condition of areas protected for nature conservation?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on protected species?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan habitats and plants?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan bird and mammal species?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on wider biodiversity (outwith protected areas and the habitats and species identified in the CNAP) in the National Park?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on deer management practices that seek to reduce environmental effects?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
6a	Will there be an effect on land management practices that seek to avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
7a	Will there be an effect on the special qualities of the National Park landscapes?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

7a	Will there be an effect on landscape character and local distinctiveness?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
7b	Will there be an effect on the historic and cultural environment and assets (including linguistic)?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
8a	Will there be an effect on housing for local needs?	Yes, over time there should be an increase in the amount of housing more appropriate to the needs of local people, through a reduction in the number of short term lets and second homes.	+	As the effects of the control of use of second homes and short term lets are positive for local people in respect of increased housing availability, there is no need for mitigation or further enhancements. The scoring therefore remains the same.	+
8a	Will there be an effect on recreation and active travel opportunities that support healthier lifestyles?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted
8a	Will there be an effect on employment opportunities local to places of residence?	N/a as NPPP objective C8 is related to the control of use of existing buildings.	x	n/a as no effects predicted	n/a as no effects predicted

Annex III: Baseline environmental data – see *separate document*

Please see the separate Topic paper infographics document.

Annex IV: Population data analysis information

The population and demographic information contained in the environmental baseline Topic papers is mostly based on data zones aggregated to a larger geographical area, which roughly corresponds with the area of the National Park.

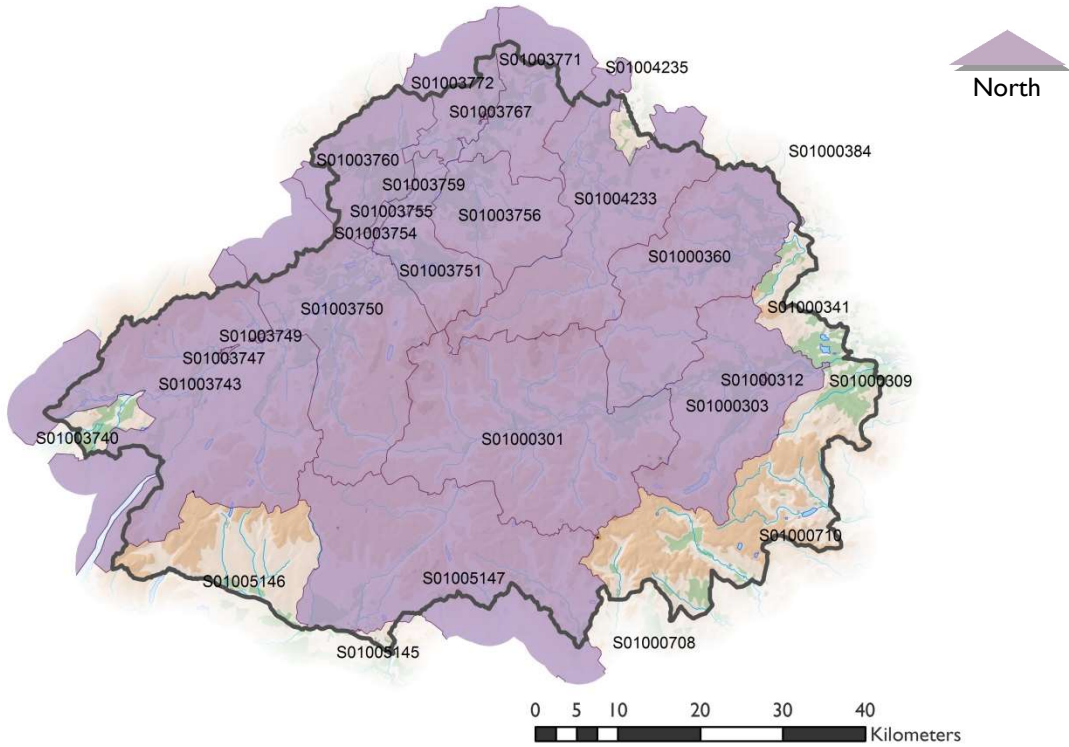
Data zones are the standard small area geography used by the Scottish Government. In general they have populations of between 500 and 1,000 residents. Data zone boundaries do not exactly match the National Park boundary and so, for the purpose of analysis, data zones are included or excluded based on 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 (<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/sns/SNSRef>). For the sake of transparency and consistency, the same approach has been applied to all relevant data-sets within the Topic papers, particularly Topic 8, Population and human health.

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 analyses of the demographic and socio-economic character of the National Park.

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. The data zones shown in table 4, figure 3 and figure 4 have been chosen to represent the National Park.

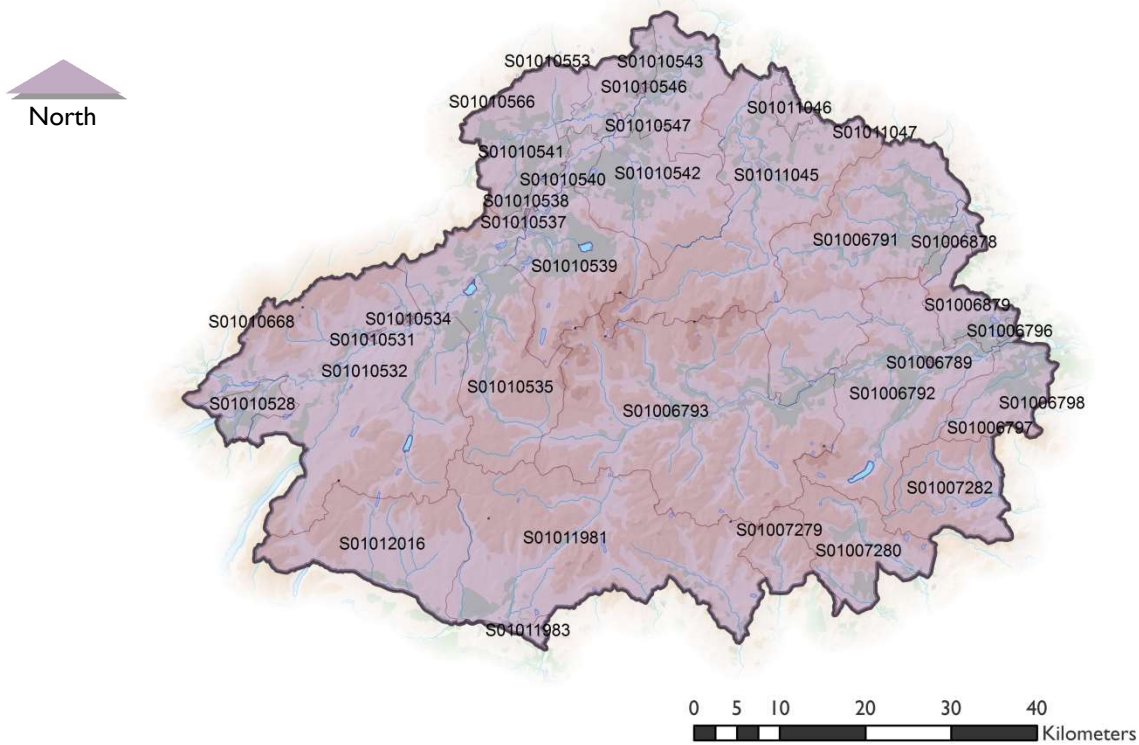
It should be noted that the Scottish Government published revised 2011 Data Zones on 6 November 2014. These geographies replace the original 2001 boundaries used in the NRS population projections. At a National Park level the changes are very minor, with the 2011 data zone boundaries corresponding closely with those of the 2001 ones. This however means that both 2001 and 2011 data zones are used in the environmental baseline Topic papers.

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.



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Figure 3 – 2001 datazones for the National Park



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Figure 4 – 2011 datazones for the National Park

Table 4 - corresponding 2001 and 2011 data zones used as an aggregate for the National Park

Highland		Aberdeenshire	
2001	2011	2001	2011
S01003743	S01010532	S01000301	S01006793
S01003747	S01010531	S01000303	S01006792
S01003748	S01010533	S01000312	S01006789
S01003749	S01010534	S01000316	S01006790
S01003750	S01010535	S01000360	S01006791
S01003751	S01010539	Moray	
S01003754	S01010536	2001	2011
S01003755	S01010538 & S01010537	S01004233	S01011045
S01003756	S01010542	Perth and Kinross	
S01003759	S01010540	2001	2011
S01003760	S01010541	S01005147	S01011981
S01003764	S01010544		
S01003766	S01010545		
S01003767	S01010546		
S01003771	S01010547		
S01003772	S01010543		

More detailed maps that show the location of population weighted centroids are available within the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics - Boundary Mapping section of <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/sns/BoundMap>.

A paper describing the methodology for calculating data zone centroids can be found on the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics - Reference Material page <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/sns/SNSRef>.

Annex V: Monitoring measures table

Main objective	Sub-objective	Measureable?	How will be measured	
Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases with particular focus on emissions from buildings, transport, energy generation and industry (especially CO₂), but also from natural carbon sinks (such as woodlands and peatlands).	Ia	Will there be an effect on energy conservation and efficiency in new development?	Number of units granted permission that have energy efficiency measures built in.	Identified annually through planning application information.
	Ia	Will there be an effect on the production of renewable energy of appropriate scale for the Park?	Number of renewable energy developments granted permission (identified through policy use in committee reports). Number of developments incorporating renewable energy generation (eg pv, solar heating, heat pumps) (identified through policy use in committee reports).	Identified annually through policy use in committee reports.
	Ia	Will there be an effect on local production and use of materials and food produce?	Change in the number of businesses producing local materials/produce.	Identified annually through new planning applications.
	Ia	Will there be an effect on carbon sinks (such as woodlands and peatlands)?	Number of projects or developments that affect woodland or peatlands. (and hectares affected if quantifiable)	<i>Combine with 4a:</i> Identified annually through LDP policy use (4 and 10) and assessment of planning application information.
	Ia	Will there be an effect on travel that produces greenhouse gas emissions?	Number of developments, projects or initiatives that change travel habits (eg increased or decreased need for journeys due to level of provision of services within reasonable active travel distance).	<i>Combined with 8a:</i> Identified annually through LDP policy (3 and 11) use in committee reports and assessment of planning application information.

<p>Ensure existing and proposed infrastructure and buildings are located and designed to cope with future climate conditions.</p>	<p>1b</p> <p>Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on existing infrastructure and buildings?</p>	<p>Area of land where consent is granted for development on PVAs.</p>	<p>Combine with 3a and 5b: https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/flooding/developing-our-knowledge/#National_Flood_Risk_Assessment and/or Identified annually through LDP policy (10) use in committee reports and assessment of planning application information.</p>
	<p>1b</p> <p>Considering future implications of climate change (eg increased severity of weather resulting in more flooding, periods of drought and extremes of temperature), will there be an effect on infrastructure and buildings proposed in the Local Development Plan?</p>	<p>n/a as such development should have been screened out or appropriate mitigation applied at the draft NPPP environmental assessment stage.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>To maintain or improve air quality and reduce emissions of key pollutants.</p>	<p>2a</p> <p>Will there be an effect on the levels of UK National Air Quality pollutants (e.g. NO2, PM10, PM2.5, SO2)?</p>	<p>Estimated emissions in the National Park for gases associated with climate change.</p>	<p>Using data from https://statistics.gov.scot/data/greenhouse-gas-emissions-by-source-sector and http://www.scottishairquality.scot/data/mapping?view=data</p>
	<p>2a</p> <p>Will there be an effect on the levels of other types of air pollution (eg particulates)?</p>	<p>Estimated emissions in the National Park for particulates.</p>	

Maintain and improve the quality of water resources and to protect and enhance the state of the water environment.	3a	Will there be an effect on the water quality of rivers, lochs and ground-water from diffuse and point source pollution?	Change in the number of water bodies identified by SEPA identified with water quality issues caused by diffuse or point source pollution.	Combine with 3c: Using SEPA data https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/water-classification-hub/
	3a	Will there be an effect on the ability of river catchments to store water and the natural flood management services they provide?	See 1b re PVAs	See 1b
	3a	Will there be an effect on public water supplies?		
Reduce demand for water and minimise unnecessary water use.	3b	Will there be an effect on demand for water from development (residential and business)?	Number of developments constrained by water supplies being at capacity.	Combine with 5a: Consultation responses to planning applications from Scottish Water.
	3b	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of water resources?		
To reduce the impact of invasive non-native species on the water environment.	3c	Will there be an effect on the water environment from invasive non-native species?	Number of waterbodies with invasive non-native species recorded.	SEPA data – see 3a
Minimise contamination and safeguard and improve	4a	Will there be an effect on carbon rich soils, in particular peat?	See also 1a – Number of projects or developments that affect carbon rich peatland soils. (or hectares affected)	See 1a.

soil, peat quality and geodiversity.	4a	Will there be an effect on soil sealing, soil structure and soil loss?	Area of land lost to development.	Captured in planning application information where this information is quantifiable.
	4a	Will there be an effect on the levels of soil contamination?	<p>Change in the number of sites on the Local Authority contaminated land registers.</p> <p>https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1281/pollution/76/contaminated_land/4</p> <p>https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/environmental-health/contaminated-land/</p> <p>Perth & Kinross don't have an online register and appear to be assessing potential sites although their undated strategy states they have no sites https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/15311/Contaminated-land</p> <p>Angus doesn't have any contaminated land as at November 2019 https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/contaminated_land_register_5#incoming-1476489</p> <p>Moray doesn't have an online version but in December 2020 there were 3 contaminated land sites http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_105631.html</p>	<p>Identified annually through LDP policy (10) use in committee reports and assessment of planning application information.</p> <p>Also check with Local Authorities where information available.</p>

	4a	Will there be an effect on soil erosion and landslides?	n/a as should have been screened out at proposed plan stage.	n/a
	4a	Will there be an effect on geodiversity interests (eg GCRs)?	Number of developments affecting geological SSSI or GCR sites.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (4) and assessment of planning application information.
Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of material assets.	5a	Will there be an effect on sustainable use of natural resources (eg water, timber, aggregates)?	Number of developments permitted that rely heavily on natural resources.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (10) and assessment of planning application information.
	5a	Will there be an effect on the sustainable use and management of existing and proposed infrastructure (eg water, heat, energy or flood protection infrastructure)?	See 1b, 3a and 3b.	See 1b, plus 3a and 3b.
	5a	Will there be an effect on the use of finite resources through the use of secondary and recycled materials?	Through how much material is being recycled as a proportion of waste generated in the National Park.	https://www.environment.gov.uk/data/data-analysis/household-waste/

Protect and enhance the biodiversity of the National Park.	6a	Will there be an effect on the favourable condition of areas protected for nature conservation?	Change in number of features/interests in favourable condition as a result of pressures caused by the implementation of the LDP.	Scotland's Environment website https://www.environment.gov.scot/data/useful-data-sources/#habitatsAndSpecies
	6a	Will there be an effect on protected species?	Number of planning applications requiring a Species Protection Plan or mitigation measures for protected species or CNAP habitats, plants, birds or mammals.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (4) and assessment of planning application information.
	6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan habitats and plants?		
	6a	Will there be an effect on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan bird and mammal species?		
	6a	Will there be an effect on wider biodiversity (outwith protected areas and the habitats and species identified in the CNAP) in the National Park?	Number of developments incorporating biodiversity enhancement measures.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (4 and 3.3k) and assessment of planning application information.
	6a	Will there be an effect on deer management practices that seek to reduce environmental effects?	Anecdotal evidence might come to light during deer management group meetings.	Reports from deer management groups.
	6a	Will there be an effect on land management practices that seek to avoid the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species and tree diseases?	Indirectly linked to 3c (water environment) and 6a (protected area condition), so changes related to those environments would be picked up through those objectives.	See 3c and 6a.

Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the landscapes of the Park.	7a	Will there be an effect on the special qualities of the National Park landscapes?		
	7a	Will there be an effect landscape character and local distinctiveness?	Number of developments having effects on landscape interests (Identified annually through policy use in committee reports).	Identified annually through LDP policy use (5) and assessment of planning application information.
Protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment and assets (including linguistic) of the Park.	7b	Will there be an effect on the historic and cultural environment and assets (including linguistic)?	Number of developments having effects on cultural heritage interests.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (9) and assessment of planning application information.
Support and enhance the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors to the Park through housing, recreation and employment opportunities.	8a	Will there be an effect on housing for local needs?	Number of affordable housing units.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (1.5 affordable housing) and assessment of planning application information.
	8a	Will there be an effect on recreation and active travel opportunities that support healthier lifestyles?	Number of developments, projects or initiatives that change travel habits (eg increased or decreased need for journeys due to level of provision of services within reasonable active travel distance).	<i>See also la re active travel.</i> Identified annually through LDP policy use (3.3 and 11) and assessment of planning application information.
	8a	Will there be an effect on employment opportunities local to places of residence?	Number of economic developments in settlements.	Identified annually through LDP policy use (2) and assessment of planning application information

Annex VI: Habitats Regulations Appraisal

Elements of the NPPP scoped in for consideration

Only the elements of the NPPP that have potential for connectivity to or are predicted to have environmental effects on European sites have been scoped in for consideration in the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) process. Those without potential connectivity or any predicted environmental effects have been scoped out of requiring further consideration in the HRA.

The elements of the draft NPPP scoped in for consideration as part of the HRA process are:

- The short and long term targets for Objective A3, peatland restoration (restore a minimum of 6500ha of peatland by 2027 and by 2045 minimum of 35,000ha peatland restored).
- The short term target for Objective C4, to complete the Deeside Way extension to Braemar.

Elements of the NPPP scoped out after further consideration

The two elements of the NPPP scoped in for consideration have subsequently been scoped out of requiring HRA for the following reasons:

- The short and long term targets for Objective A3 (peatland restoration) have been scoped out. This is because while it is broadly known where peatland exists in the National Park, it is not known where applications for peatland restoration projects will be submitted for. This makes carrying out a HRA of the peatland restoration objective impossible. (Individual peatland restoration projects are subject to screening for HRA by NatureScot during the planning process, so any individual projects that come forward will be subject to detailed HRA at that time.)
- The short term action for Objective C4 (complete Deeside Way extension to Braemar) has been scoped out of requiring HRA for the NPPP, as a HRA was completed for the existing planning permission. (The HRA for the planning application concluded no adverse effects on site integrity for Ballochbuie Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), or River Dee SAC.)

As both of the Objectives have been scoped out, no further appraisal is required for the NPPP.