

## **Cairngorms 2030 programme and plans**

### **Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005**

#### **I. Cairngorms 2030 programme**

##### **Screening determination**

In accordance with Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 CNPA has formally determined, in consultation with Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and NatureScot, that implementation of the Cairngorms 2030 programme is unlikely to lead to significant environmental effects, and therefore no environmental report will be prepared for the programme.

##### **Statement of reasons**

The programme itself is too vague to enable meaningful assessment and in itself is unlikely to result in significant environmental effects. Delivery is through the associated Cairngorms 2030 plans, which are subject to separate assessment.

#### **2. Cairngorms 2030 plans**

##### **Screening determination**

In accordance with Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 CNPA has formally determined, in consultation with Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and NatureScot, that implementation of 10 of the 23 Cairngorms 2030 plans are likely to lead to significant environmental effects, and therefore environmental assessments will be prepared for those plans. CNPA has also formally determined, in consultation with Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and NatureScot, that implementation of the remaining 13 plans are unlikely to lead to significant environmental effects, and therefore no environmental report will be prepared for them.

##### **Statement of reasons**

The Cairngorms 2030 plans have been screened in or out for the reasons set out in the table below.

Plan	Potential for environmental effects
I a Wellbeing Economy	None - stage 1 outputs are consensus building and information gathering.
I b Green Health	None - stage 1 outputs are consensus building and information gathering.
I c Dementia Activity Resource Centre	While there is limited detail to enable meaningful environmental assessment at present, the 'programme of activities developed and delivered' could have environmental effects on sensitive environmental areas around the proposed location at Badaguish (particularly areas important for capercaillie), while also having positive health benefits for those with dementia and their carers. There are potential interrelationships with other Cairngorms 2030 plans that involve active travel that may also affect the same location and surrounding area.
2a Climate learning and education	None - stage 1 outputs are consensus building and information gathering, and future bid preparation.

2b Effective Community Engagement (combined with 3b Citizen's Assembly)	None - stage I outputs are consensus building and information gathering, and future bid preparation.
2c Community Arts and Culture	None - stage I outputs are consensus building and information gathering, and future bid preparation.
3a Climate Conscious Communities	None - stage I outputs are consensus building and information gathering, and future bid preparation.
3c Community Managed Grants scheme	None - stage I outputs are process based managing grant funding.
4a Regional Land Use Partnership and land rights and responsibilities	None - stage I outputs are consensus building and information gathering.
4b Green Investment Plan	None - stage I outputs are information gathering and finance testing.
5a Woodland Expansion	None - stage I outputs are information gathering.
5b Peatland restoration	While there is very little detail on where restoration would take place or what would be involved, sites will be identified and there could be environmental effects for example through access with machinery to and from the restoration area causing damage and sediment release (affecting water quality), noise and lighting from machinery and human activity causing disturbance, and/or works timed inappropriately so causing increased disturbance or damage to habitats and species. There may also be effects on cultural heritage that may be hidden under peatland habitat being restored. There should be beneficial effects on air and climatic factors through the contribution restoration would make to tackling the causes of climate change by improving the function of the restored peatlands as carbon sinks. Potential interrelationship with the climate resilient catchments plan.
5c Climate resilient catchments	While there is very little detail on where restoration would take place or what would be involved at present, there could be environmental effects for example through access with machinery to and from the restoration area causing damage to habitats and/or pollution through sediment release, noise and/or lighting from machinery and human activity causing disturbance to species, and/or works timed inappropriately so causing disturbance or increased damage/pollution. There is also the potential for positive environmental effects such as natural flood management (climatic factors) and restoration having beneficial effects on biodiversity. Potential interrelationship with the peatland restoration plan.
5d Deer Management	None - stage I outputs are information gathering and consensus building, while the preparation of Strategic Land Use Plans output is too vague to enable meaningful assessment.
5e Cairngorms Future Farming	None - stage I outputs are information gathering and consensus building, while the preparation of Integrated Land Management Plans output is too vague to enable meaningful assessment.
5f Landscape and communities	None - stage I outputs are consensus building and information gathering.
6a Ebikes	While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from changes in e bike use, for example changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on

	<p>sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans and plans affecting the same area in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.</p>
6b Glenmore transport plan	<p>While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from reduced or restricted vehicle use, for example changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans and plans affecting the same area in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.</p>
6c Active communities Badenoch and Strathspey	<p>While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from infrastructure improvements and concept designs causing built development and/or changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.</p>
6d Sustainable transport in Deeside	<p>While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from infrastructure improvements and concept designs causing built development and/or changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.</p>
6e Sustainable transport in Highland Perthshire	<p>While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from the route between Blair Atholl and Killiecrankie caused by built development and/or changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.</p>
6f Active Aviemore	<p>While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from infrastructure improvements and concept designs causing built development and/or changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health</p>

	benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.
6g Cairngorms active travel plan	While there is limited detail to enable meaningful assessment at present, there could be environmental effects from infrastructure improvements and concept designs causing built development and/or changes to the patterns of human activity having effects on sensitive environmental areas/receptors (eg areas protected for nature conservation or otherwise important for wildlife, sensitive habitats, cultural heritage, built environment, landscape effects, etc). There is also potential for health benefits to people through being more active and reduced emissions from fossil fuel powered vehicles. Potential for interrelationship with other travel related plans in the Cairngorms 2030 programme.

### Further information

A copy of the June 2022 screening report submitted to consultation authorities, which provides further detail on the programme and plans assessed, can be viewed online via <https://cairngorms.co.uk/working-together/cairngorms-2030/> or requested by emailing [planning@cairngorms.co.uk](mailto:planning@cairngorms.co.uk) or writing to CNPA, 14 The Square, Grantown on Spey, PH26 3HG.

**5 July 2022**