Paper for decision

1. Purpose

To present the draft Annual Operational Plan for 2016/17 for approval.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that members approve the 2016/17 Annual Operational Plan.

3. Overview

The National Park Authority Annual Operating Plan 2016-17 sets out our priorities for delivery for the year. Specifically, it sets out:

- what we intend to do
- what we intend to achieve and
- how we will measure and report on our performance, over the coming year.

This Annual Operational Plan is prepared during a significant year of change for the National Park. It sets out what the National Park Authority will do during 2016-17 to deliver the current National Park Partnership Plan (2012-17), now in its final year. An important task for 2016-17 will be to prepare a new Partnership Plan looking towards the next five year period.

The draft Annual Operational Plan has also been developed based on the on-going delivery, the 2012-17 Corporate Plan, and having regard to the Scottish Government’s Programme for Government and National Outcomes alongside the financial imperatives for next year and beyond, namely that:

- we will have fewer resources
- we will have to make tough decisions about:
  - what we actively choose to do
  - what we will stop doing and
  - how we can do ‘better for less’.

4. Summary

Members will note that the number one priority is the development and delivery of the Your Park project. The successful delivery of this project will require the combined and concerted efforts of staff (and partners) alongside prioritising our financial resources for the coming year.

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