

National Park Authority Board Meeting

Agenda Item 5

National Park Partnership Plan 2018-23



Paper for decision

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present Members with the finalised Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Partnership Plan 2018-23 and request approval to submit to Scottish Ministers.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Board members are asked to:

- (i) **Approve** the final Plan for Ministerial submission;
- (ii) **Note** that the associated statutory assessments are complete and conclude that the plan will not have adverse environmental effects;
- (iii) **Agree** to delegate final minor editorial and design adjustments to officers prior to submission.

3. Background

- 3.1 The National Park Partnership Plan provides the strategic direction for the work of the National Park Authority and its partners across the National Park area over the next 5 years, setting key outcomes and priorities and identifying organisations who will help deliver these. The National Park Partnership Plan will also set the context for the new National Park Authority Corporate Plan which is the strategic document for the organisation itself, and which will be presented to the Board for approval early next year.
- 3.2 The current 2012-17 Plan is now in its final year and the National Park Authority therefore requires to prepare and submit a new Partnership Plan, covering the period 2018-23, to Scottish Ministers for approval.
- 3.3 As Members will be aware work has been underway on the Partnership Plan since 2015, with oversight provided by a Board Steering Group. The finalised Plan takes account of comments made following consultation on a Draft plan in summer 2017.

4. Plan Finalisation

- 4.1 The work to prepare a final National Park Partnership Plan has been informed by consultation responses. As reported at the September Board meeting, in general [the consultation](#) response overall supported the vision, outcomes and priorities of the Plan and did not indicate that significant changes were required. Stakeholder

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engagement, particularly with key delivery partners, has continued in the post-consultation period.

- 4.2 The Steering Group Board Members provided scrutiny of the amendments and resulting final Partnership Plan in early November.
- 4.3 The finalised Plan also includes a suite of maps to illustrate some of the priorities of the Plan and a framework of indicators and targets for monitoring the Plan's impact. The Plan also sets out how it will contribute to nationally important priorities such as Health and Well-being, and Climate Change. A text version of the document is attached to this report as Appendix 1 and it is hoped that a final design of both the hard copy and online versions of the Plan can be made available by the time of the Board meeting.
- 4.4 The required statutory assessments (Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment) have been undertaken by officers and have concluded that the Plan will have no adverse impacts. These documents will be made available online before the Board meeting.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 If approved by the Board, the Partnership Plan will be submitted to Scottish Ministers as soon as a finalised designed version is completed. Subject to ministerial approval the National Park Authority is looking to work with Scottish Government for a launch event in early 2018.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Board Members are now presented with Appendix 1, which comprises the final text version of the Partnership Plan and associated maps, with the fully designed version to be made available by the Board meeting.
- 6.2 Members are asked to approve the new National Park Partnership Plan, note that the associated statutory assessments are completed, and agree to delegate minor editorial changes to officers as the document is finalised for submission.

Appendix 1 – proposed National Park Partnership Plan 2018-23

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