

Creating a thriving future

**NATIONAL PARK
PARTNERSHIP PLAN
2024-29**



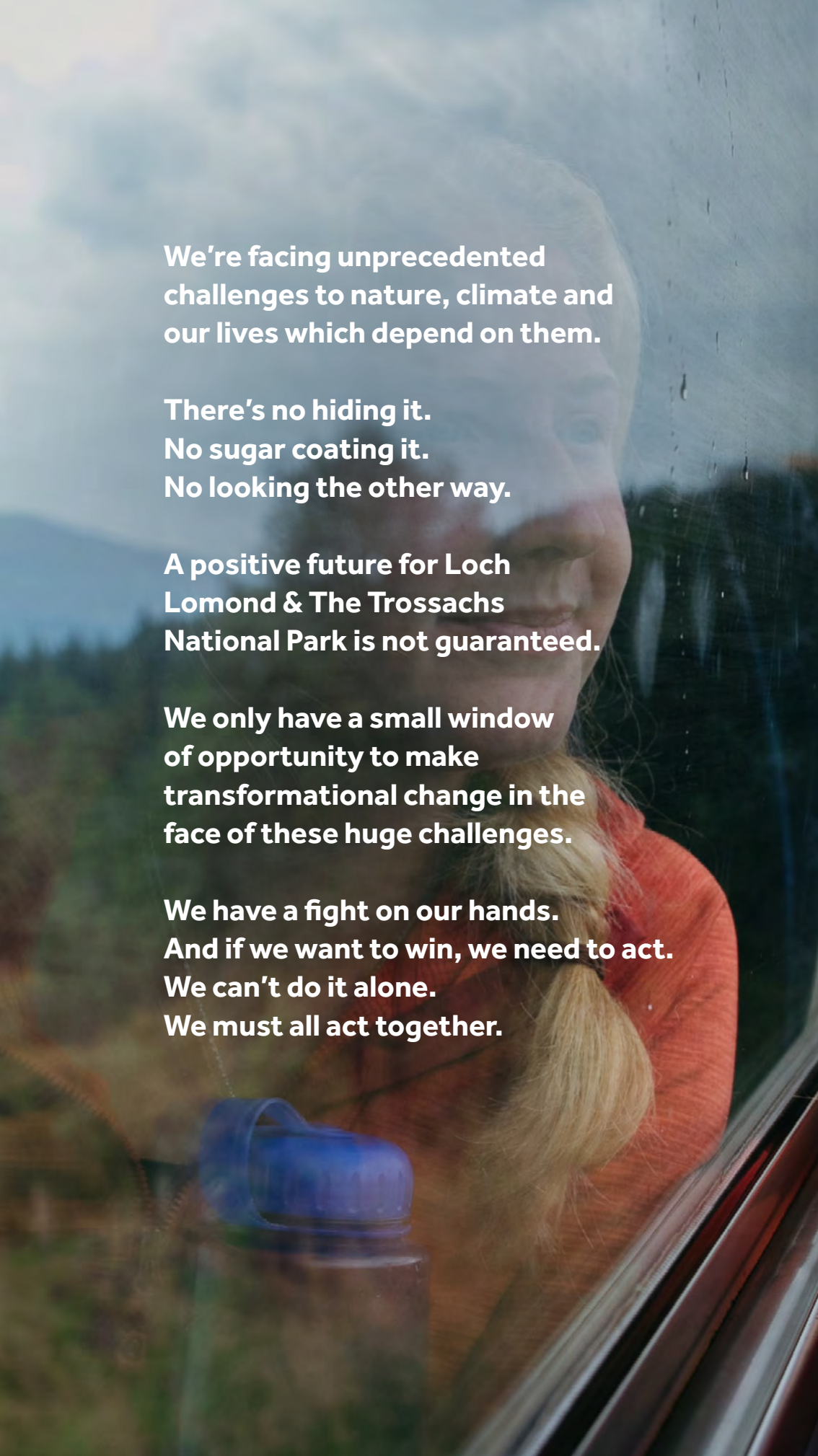
**LOCH
LOMOND
& THE TROSSACHS
NATIONAL PARK**




QUICK GUIDE

**This is a unique
moment in time for
the National Park.**





We're facing unprecedented challenges to nature, climate and our lives which depend on them.

**There's no hiding it.
No sugar coating it.
No looking the other way.**

A positive future for Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park is not guaranteed.

We only have a small window of opportunity to make transformational change in the face of these huge challenges.

**We have a fight on our hands.
And if we want to win, we need to act.
We can't do it alone.
We must all act together.**

A close-up, profile view of a woman with blonde hair styled in a braid. She is wearing a red zip-up jacket and a thin silver necklace. She is looking out of a window, with the window frame visible on the left. The lighting is soft, highlighting her features. The background is dark and out of focus.

**Here.
Now.
All of us.**

What is the National Park Partnership Plan?

It sets out a long term vision for the future of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park and the steps we will take together over the next five years to achieve it.



OUR VISION FOR 2045

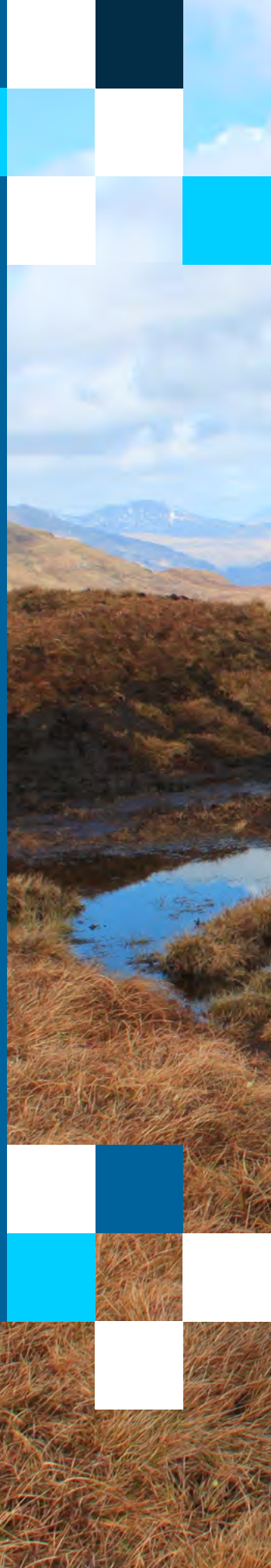
**By 2045 the
National Park is a
thriving place that is
nature positive and
carbon negative.**



Why do we need to do this?

The National Park is losing nature at a scale never experienced before and increasingly feeling the impacts of climate change.

These twin crises are impacting our environment, our communities, our economy and tourism.





Degraded peatlands are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. Peatland restoration can reduce emissions significantly.

THE UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS


- 1** Nearly a fifth of even our most special, designated sites for nature are in decline.
- 2** Over 50,000 hectares of peatlands may currently be degraded, releasing greenhouse gases, and contributing towards climate warming.
- 3** Adaptation Scotland estimates that winter rainfall in Scotland will increase by 8-19% over the coming decades with rainfall events becoming more intense all year round, leading to an increase in flooding.

THE UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS (CONT.)

- 4** The National Park is one of the most expensive places in Scotland to buy a house.
- 5** 75% of National Park households cannot afford average house prices and 43% cannot afford lower value house prices.
- 6** 79% of visitors arrive in the National Park by car and 73% explore the area by car according to our 2019/20 Visitor Survey. If there is no intervention, car-based travel is predicted to increase nationally by 40% by 2037.

THE UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS (CONT.)

- 7 Invasive non-native species remain widespread.**
- 8 The National Park's population has a lower proportion of young and working-age people compared to the national average.**
- 9 Approximately 50% of water bodies may not be in good ecological condition.**



As a special landscape, the National Park has not only an opportunity, but arguably a duty, to do more to address these challenges to benefit both the place itself and Scotland as a whole.

**It is no longer
enough to do
what we have
always done.**

Imagine a different future

We must transform the way each of us live, work in, visit and look after the National Park to achieve a more positive, sustainable future for us all.

Together we can work towards Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park being a **thriving place** that is **nature positive** and **carbon negative**.



A THRIVING PLACE

Communities and businesses are more resilient and sustainable through greener ways of living and working. There are more local jobs, homes and transport services supporting young and working aged people of all backgrounds to live and work here. The economy is more diverse and prospering, with tourism and rural businesses having adapted to become more resilient.





NATURE POSITIVE

The loss of nature has been halted and reversed so that landscapes thrive, native wildlife is more abundant and important habitats such as woodlands, peatlands and waterbodies are healthier and more resilient to change. Land is managed, and funded, in innovative new ways that strike a balance between production and protection.

CARBON NEGATIVE

We have gone beyond Net Zero so that the National Park is a natural carbon sink, absorbing more carbon than it emits. Visitors and local people enjoying the Park using a network of well-connected and affordable transport and active travel options and there is a thriving sustainable tourism sector.



The National Park by 2045

This Partnership Plan goes beyond the usual five-year timescale of previous Partnership Plans. This is because we are facing unprecedented challenges that need a longer-term approach to tackle them coupled with immediate, urgent action.

Taking steps over the next five years will create the momentum needed to achieve our vision for 2045.



STEPS TO RESTORING NATURE

A NATURAL CARBON SINK

1. Reduce peatland emissions
2. Increase tree cover
3. Restore our water environment

A RESTORED LANDSCAPE FOR NATURE

1. Connect nature at landscape scale
2. Manage more land for nature
3. Reduce key pressures on nature

AN EXEMPLAR OF REGENERATIVE LAND USE

1. Support more regenerative land use
2. Invest in nature restoration
3. Encourage land use that
benefits everyone



STEPS TO CREATING A LOW-CARBON PLACE

A PLACE FOR ALL TO ENJOY SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY

1. Inspire action for nature and climate
2. Support diversity and inclusion
3. Support safe, responsible access

HIGH QUALITY VISITOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES

1. Deliver a multi-year place programme
2. Improve travel infrastructure
3. Provide a high-quality recreational path network

AN INCLUSIVE, LOW CARBON TRAVEL NETWORK

1. Develop a new strategic transport partnership approach
2. Make sustainable travel choices more attractive
3. Improve travel routes and services



STEPS TO DESIGNING A GREENER WAY OF LIVING

A GREENER, MORE DIVERSE RURAL ECONOMY

1. Increase sustainable tourism
2. Support low carbon businesses
3. Grow green & nature-based jobs and skills

MORE RESILIENT RURAL COMMUNITIES

1. Enable more local living and working
2. Meet housing needs
3. Build community wealth

A RESPONSIVE APPROACH TO NEW DEVELOPMENT

1. Deliver strategic development needs
2. Help adapt to climate change and restore nature
3. Make the best use of land and assets

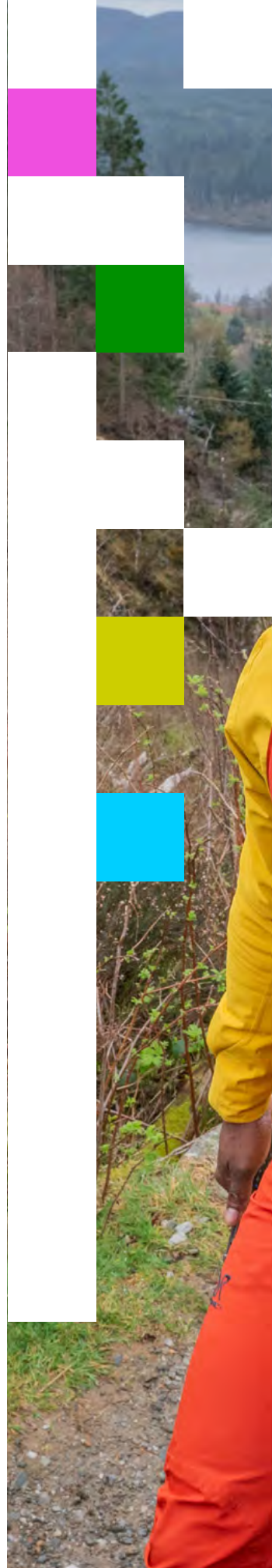
How can you help?

We all have a part to play in putting this Plan into action and making this vision a reality.

Whether you live, work, run a business, manage land or just love to spend time in the National Park, its future is in your hands.

It might be developing a nature restoration project on your land or setting up a community initiative to tackle climate change, or a sustainable business tourism idea. We want to hear from you and work together.

**To find out more visit:
lochlomond-trossachs.org/future**





**The time
is now.**

**This is the
moment.**



**Connect & share with us on
social media @lomondtrossachs**