

PE1678/M

Cairngorms National Park Authority submission of 1 March 2018

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to comment on Petition **PE1678** (National strategic framework for Countryside Ranger Services in Scotland).

The Ranger Services in the Cairngorms National Park are provided in a unique and highly successful partnership arrangement by 13 different employers, including local authorities, private estates, charitable trusts and public agencies. All 13 services receive support from public funds with seven services in receipt of a specific grant from the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA). The Park Authority works to coordinate the work of all the Ranger Services in the Park.

Their work is vital to the successful management of the Cairngorms National Park helping to deliver the vision for the Park as set out in the National Park Partnership Plan. The attached infographic attests to the wide ranging work of the services as well as demonstrating that the partnership in the Cairngorms National Park is delivering the *Rangers in Scotland* vision:

Scotland's Rangers connect people with places. They provide an innovative, inspirational and professional service, committed to enhancing public enjoyment, understanding and care of the outdoors, focused on maintaining the quality and relevance of their work and recognised, valued and supported by their employers, other related professions and the public.

Ranger Services can play a successful role in the delivery of a number of public policy agendas especially around getting people more active as part of the Natural Health Service, connecting people with nature as part of the Biodiversity 2020 challenge and helping to enhance the visitor experience and manage visitor pressures at key rural infrastructure.

The establishment of the Rural Tourism Fund shows the pressure that infrastructure is under from visitors across Scotland and Rangers can be part of the solution to these issues.

The coordination that the CNPA provides in the Cairngorms for this type of work is set out in the [National Park Partnership Plan](#). This framework provides a focus across the public, private and voluntary sectors.

I hope that this information is useful in your deliberations

Ranger Services in the Cairngorms National Park



Countryside Rangers promote the enjoyment, understanding and care of the Cairngorms National Park

13 Ranger Services
Employed by a variety of organisations including public bodies, NGO's, Estates and charitable trusts.



9 Ranger Bases
Covering **117,240 ha**



22 Full-time Ranger Staff

Achievements in 2016/17

ENJOYMENT



750,140

visitors welcomed

6,671
people attended ranger events

200+
miles of paths managed and maintained for the public

UNDERSTANDING



2,448
children and young adults, including Junior Rangers, benefiting from educational activities

1,153
volunteer days delivered

Promoting Tread Lightly in the Park and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code

CARE & SUPPORT



35
Cairngorms Nature Projects supported

Dealing with irresponsible behaviour

Supporting health walks and equality groups to enjoy the countryside

For further information about the valuable work of rangers in the Park visit: cairngorms.co.uk/caring-future/rangers-services

www.cairngorms.co.uk