

PE1678/S

Crown Estate Scotland submission of 2 March 2018

Crown Estate Scotland is tasked with managing assets that stretch and length and breadth of Scotland. Through working with others, we aim to innovate with land and property to create prosperity for Scotland and its communities.

All our revenue profit goes to Scottish Government. Our 2017-20 [corporate plan](#) and 2017-18 [business plan](#) details our priorities and objectives, and our [Framework Document](#) sets out our functions, duties and powers.

Crown Estate Scotland is responsible for managing:

- Leasing of virtually all seabed out to 12 nautical miles covering some 750 fish farming sites and agreements with cables & pipeline operators in Scottish waters;
- The rights to offshore renewable energy and gas and carbon storage out to 200 nautical miles;
- 37,000 hectares of rural land with agricultural tenancies, residential and commercial properties and forestry on four rural estates;
- Rights to fish wild salmon and tea trout in rivers and coastal areas, as well as rights to naturally-occurring gold and silver across most of Scotland;
- Around half the foreshore around Scotland including 5,800 moorings and some ports and harbours; and
- Retail and office units in Edinburgh.

This response is informed by our responsibilities and experience of land management across our rural portfolio.

Crown Estate Scotland broadly agrees with the actions called for within Petition PE1678. We employ a ranger service at our Glenlivet Estate, which forms part of the network of Ranger Services within the Cairngorms National Park. This service supports visits from over 350 pupils and 13,000 cyclists each year to learn, explore and exercise at the Glenlivet Estate. Like other Ranger Services in the Cairngorms National Park we receive a grant contribution towards the cost of running the Ranger Service.

Unlike other Ranger Services out with the National Park, our Glenlivet Service has benefited from the coordinated and supported approach which has been maintained by being within the National Park. This includes regular meetings, an annual conference and strategic and supported training for rangers within the area. This is hugely positive and has allowed for much partnership working between organisations which has gained recognition for the advantages it provides.

Within the wider sector, reduction in support, training and knowledge sharing on a strategic national level has been recognised following the changes in 2008. Crown Estate Scotland has therefore seen the positive benefits that a strategic framework can bring through its involvement within the Cairngorms National Park.

The importance of Ranger Services is recognised within our organization. We established a Ranger Service at Glenlivet over 25 years ago, which has contributed

significantly to the delivery of multi-purpose land-use and partnership working, demonstrating the key role rangers play in successful long-term rural development. The Ranger Service delivers all the key ranger aims including providing a visitor centre, wider interpretation across the Estate, education services, tourism marketing, countryside information services, provision of access trails, community support, volunteering programs and environmental land management work for the benefit of biodiversity. This has allowed for valued cooperation within a working estate and with local communities, contributing to Glenlivet Estate being an award-winning example of sustainable, integrated Estate management.

The framework provided through the Cairngorms National Park Authority has involved a great deal of work, but the benefits that have come from this have been recognised and supported the 12 Ranger Services within its boundary. A similar framework for a national approach would therefore be welcomed to help support the future of the Ranger profession within Scotland.