

## The Future for National Parks in Scotland

### Overview

<i>General Comments</i>

### Detailed Response

<b>Specific Comments</b>

Section 1	The Role of National Parks (Q1-7)
1	<b>Do you support "leadership of nature recovery and a just transition to net zero" becoming the overarching purpose of Scotland's National Parks? If not, what else would you propose?</b>
<p>Agree</p> <p>Scotland's landscape, and its National Parks, can play a significant role in supporting both climate change adaptation and mitigation. They can deliver landscapes resilient to climate change which support society through natural flood management and water resource management. They can also increase the natural capital of landscapes in terms of their ability to capture carbon through habitat restoration, peatland and soil management and woodland creation.</p>	
2	<b>Which of the proposed elements of leadership and action set out in the list above do you support? What others - if any - would you propose?</b>
<p>Consultation answer</p>	
3	<b>What opportunities are there for National Parks to generate private investment in natural capital?</b>
<p>Consultation answer</p>	
4	<b>What role should local communities play in the National Park and how should National Park authorities work with and for them to secure a just transition?</b>
<p>Communities will have a vital role to play in the National Park, setting objectives and supporting delivery. Landscape scale change needs to be done in partnership with the communities that will live and work within the area.</p>	



5	<b>Do you support a “vision and mission” for all of Scotland’s National Parks being clearly set out in a national statement? If not, why not?</b>
Consultation answer	
6	<b>If you favour a national statement for Scotland’s National Parks being developed, what else should it cover?</b>
Consultation answer	
7	<b>To what extent should new National Parks be about the future potential of an area for nature restoration as well as what is currently in place</b>
Consultation answer	
<b>The Statutory Aims of National Parks (Q8-12)</b>	
8	<b>Are any specific changes to the existing four Aims required? If so why, and what are they?</b>
Consultation answer	
9	<b>Which of these possible options, or mix of possible options, do you think would help strengthen the focus and contribution of National Parks, and why?</b>
Consultation answer	
10	<b>Are there other options that could be considered? If so, what are they?</b>
11	<b>Do you think there should be any changes to the wording in the Act to require public bodies to support delivery of National Park Plans? If so, what would you propose?</b>
Public bodies already have a duty under the Climate Change Act to support the Scottish Government’s climate mitigation and adaptation objectives. National Parks, through their core purpose, have a key role in overseeing large scale landholdings and working with landowners to support environmental, social, and economic objectives. This will include landholdings owned by public bodies or areas where public bodies (eg local authorities) have a key role in shaping how the land is managed.	



Additionally, public bodies have a duty under the Nature Conservation Act to support Scotland's biodiversity objectives.

We suggest that as public bodies already have a duty to support climate, carbon, and biodiversity outcomes, any additional duties are looked at in the context of how these existing duties may already support this, if they are effective, or whether they need to be strengthened.

12	<b>Do you have any other suggestions for improving partnership working to support the implementation of the National Park Plan by all?</b>
<b>Powers and Functions of National Park Authorities (Q13-16)</b>	
13	<b>Could any of the existing powers and functions be used more effectively? If so, which ones and how?</b>
14	<b>Are any of the existing powers or functions redundant or unnecessary? If so, which ones and why?</b>
15	<b>What, if any, changes to the powers and functions in these areas should be considered and why?</b>
16	<b>Are there any other areas where strengthened or new powers and functions will be needed by the National Park Authority? If so, what are they?</b>
<b>Diversity in approach (Q17-18)</b>	
17	<b>Should the powers and functions of National Park Authorities be decided on a park-by-park basis? Should any apply to all National Park Authorities? If so, which ones and why?</b>
18	<b>Are there any changes you would want to see to the governance and management arrangements of all National Park Authorities?</b>



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