

A scenic landscape of Cairngorms National Park. In the foreground, a river flows through a valley, its surface reflecting the sky and the surrounding landscape. The middle ground is dominated by a dense forest of green trees, with some trees showing autumnal colors. In the background, snow-capped mountains rise against a clear blue sky. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

“Our communities define the Cairngorms National Park as much as the mountains, moorlands, forests and farmland we live with.”

Community Visions and Feedback



During 2010, many of you who live in the Park helped identify what's important about your community and what you want it to be like in the future.

These 'visions' have been key to enabling the Cairngorms National Park Authority to form the proposals and draft the **Cairngorms National Park Plan 2012-2017** (pages 2-5) as well as identify the issues in the **Local Development Plan Main Issues Report** (pages 6-7).

We want to share some information about these 'visions' here which were all prepared in your own words and are set out in full in

the Draft National Park Plan. (to obtain a copy, see the back page of 'Your View' or log on to www.cairngorms.co.uk).

Common themes

Communities told us they want more influence so that more of their ambitions can be achieved to make sure their local areas remain special.

We acknowledge it takes a lot of energy and enthusiasm to develop your respective communities and the **National Park Plan** (NPP) can support you in a number of ways and help make things really happen. The NPP five-year outcome that

states 'The Park's communities will be more empowered and able to develop their own models of sustainability,' is particularly relevant.

We think all this means putting together the kinds of training and skills development that you need, and pointing you towards the right advice and support to develop plans and projects. It also means making sure that you and the public sector agencies in the Park work together to achieve them.

You can see what we think will be needed to help make that happen in the **Draft National Park Plan**.

The community visions were prepared for:

- 1 The Angus Glens
- 2 Aviemore and vicinity
- 3 Ballater
- 4 Blair Atholl
- 5 Boat of Garten
- 6 Braemar
- 7 Carr-Bridge
- 8 Cromdale and Advie
- 9 Dalwhinnie
- 10 Dulnain Bridge
- 11 Glenlivet
- 12 Glenshee
- 13 Grantown-on-Spey
- 14 Killiecrankie
- 15 Kincaig and vicinity
- 16 Kingussie
- 17 Laggan
- 18 Nethy Bridge
- 19 Newtonmore
- 20 Strathdon
- 21 Tomintoul

You can view your community 'vision' by logging on to www.cairngorms.co.uk

Examples of community projects that have already been developed from the 'visions':

Ballater

- A community self-build housing group has been established to increase affordable housing options for young families.
- A tourist interpretation centre is being created by the community at Dalmochie lumber jack camp in Pannanich Woods.

Boat of Garten

- The station square heritage project is being developed to attract more visitors and therefore improve long-term viability.
- A village housing group has highlighted the urgent need for affordable housing, which shall help retain and attract families whilst maintaining the local school's viability.

Braemar

- Braemar Castle is being developed as an exciting cultural and natural heritage centre with local community support.
- A community renewable project is being developed with a focus on a micro-hydro scheme.

Carr-Bridge

- Investigating the options for a local community housing scheme were prioritised during a recent community action planning event.
- Action is now being taken to identify a meeting place for the village's young people with support and activities provided.

“The Park’s communities will be more empowered and able to develop their own models of sustainability.”

Grantown-on-Spey

- The local business association and Grantown Initiative are looking to strengthen their numbers and build up a strong marketing strategy to help realise a thriving, welcoming high street.

Kingussie

- Am Fasgadh is a project aiming to create a high quality tourist attraction on the old museum site. A variety of activities to generate sustainable income streams and local employment opportunities are planned.

Newtonmore

- Residents and businesses successfully campaigned against the closure of the Highland Folk Museum.
- A village hall refurbishment is getting underway, with the feasibility study now complete and design selected.

