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## CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

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### FOR INFORMATION

**Title: TOMINTOUL & GLENLIVET LANDSCAPE  
PARTNERSHIP – PROGRESS UPDATE**

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Experience**

### **Purpose**

To update members on submission of a Landscape Partnership bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for Tomintoul and Glenlivet.

### **Recommendations**

**That the Board note progress.**

### **Executive Summary**

We have submitted a Stage I bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership. The bid seeks to secure a £3.6M investment to enhance the assets that underpin the area's landscape, tourism, skills and culture. The bid has strong partnership support and will deliver a significant programme of work contributing to all three of the NP Partnership Plan's outcomes and several CNPA programmes.

## **TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP – FOR INFORMATION**

### **Strategic Context**

1. The National Park Partnership Plan 2012-17 includes an action to ‘develop a landscape partnership project to deliver landscape enhancement and community benefits to Tomintoul and Glenlivet’ (*work package 6b*).
2. Over the last two years, CNPA and the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust have brought together partners to develop this programme of work, and the identified delivery mechanism is a formal Landscape Partnership, seeking funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
3. Overall the bid aims to secure an investment of £3.6M into Tomintoul and Glenlivet to build on the recent economic regeneration actions by enhancing the assets that underpin the area’s landscape quality, tourism, skills and culture.

### **Current Position**

4. We have submitted a stage 1 bid to HLF at end of May 2014. This includes an outline of project proposals and indications of anticipated match funding. A decision on the stage 1 bid is expected in September 2014. If successful, HLF would then part fund a development year in which projects are worked up in detail, for a stage 2 bid to secure HLF and match funds for delivery. Delivery would therefore start in 2016/17.
5. The Finance and Delivery Committee considered the CNPA’s commitment in principle to match funding and resourcing on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

### **HLF Landscape Partnerships**

6. This established funding programme supports initiatives that bring together local, regional and national interests to conserve areas of distinctive landscape character. Funded in part by HLF, the programmes contribute to heritage conservation as an integral part of rural regeneration at a landscape scale.
7. HLF look for programmes that will deliver a long term legacy. We believe we have a strong bid for HLF given the partner commitment, the distinctive landscape area and the synergies with the regeneration strategy.

### **Project Partnership**

8. The project partnership board at present comprises:
  - a) CNPA
  - b) Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust
  - c) The Crown Estate
  - d) Highlands and Islands Enterprise
  - e) RCAHMS
  - f) RSPB

9. In addition, supporting partners involved in developing and delivering projects include:
- a) Moray Council
  - b) Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust
  - c) Cairngorms Learning Partnership
  - d) Spey Catchment Initiative
  - e) Forestry Commission Scotland
  - f) SNH
10. Until the final stages of completing the application it had been intended that the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust would be the lead partner. However, following a meeting with HLF the Trust directors considered that they had significant concerns about their capacity to lead the application given the financial scale and scope of multiple projects. HLF had identified the capacity of the Trust as a potential risk in the application.
11. Following discussions with the Trust CNPA is therefore the lead partner for the Stage 1 application. We will use the development phase to work alongside HIE in helping the Trust to build their capacity for the delivery phase. As lead partner CNPA will be responsible in the development phase for the overall project management and managing funding. The lead for project development will be allocated to a range of partners, each of which will take on responsibility and accountability to HLF.

## Programme Overview

12. The programme includes a series of projects focused on:
- a) **Nature Conservation:** woodland restructuring, wetland enhancement, riparian enhancement, community conservation projects;
  - b) **Cultural Heritage:** Repair and conservation of Blairfindy Castle, Scalan, oral history, digital interpretation, Tomintoul Museum and community heritage;
  - c) **Outdoor Access:** Speyside Way spur, 3 castles trail, signage and interpretation;
  - d) **Skills and Training:** skills audit and training programme, education programme, volunteering programme;
  - e) **Visitor experience:** Events and celebrations, interpretation, visitor orientation.
13. This is a substantial programme of work that will deliver across all three long term outcomes of the NP Partnership Plan and several CNPA programmes, and make a significant impact in Tomintoul and Glenlivet.

14. As an indication of proposed spend, the direct project delivery costs are approximately as follows in terms of broad themes:

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Total Spend</b>
Built heritage conservation	£703,989
Habitat conservation	£702,701
Community heritage	£427,000
Outdoor Access	£617,090
Interpretation and Information	£370,000
Training	£165,000

### **Match funding**

15. At this stage we have identified indications of match funding of approximately £900,000 over the five year programme. At Stage 1, this funding is an indication of the anticipated match funding, accepting that confirmation will come on completion of a full business case, and where necessary applications, during the development phase and beyond.
16. At present, match funding indications are as follows:
- a) CNPA: £50,000 pa for 5 years
  - b) HIE: £50,000 pa for 5 years
  - c) Moray Council: £50,000 pa for 4 years
  - d) Crown Estate: £50,000 pa for 5 years plus potential project specific funding to be developed
  - e) Plus project specific grants anticipated to be at least £200,000
17. If successful this is a substantial programme of work leveraging an investment of £3.6M into a priority area of the Park. It is attracting strong commitments of match funding and support from our partners.

### **Strategic Risk Management**

18. This programme helps address the strategic risk that partners do not commit sufficiently to delivering the NP Partnership Plan by establishing a formal programme with significant external funding that delivers across all three long term outcomes in this area. It secures a focus from a wide range of partners on delivering in this area for a five year period.
19. Risks identified in this approach include:
- a) HLF funding bid is unsuccessful at stage 1: we would be able to progress some of the component projects but in a slower and less integrated way.

Nonetheless, we would have a good basis of partner focus and initial project development to fall back on.

- b) HLF funding is unsuccessful at stage 2: we would have invested more during the development phase, but have well developed projects positioned to seek funding on a more individual basis, losing the added value and landscape scale, but with potential to make progress.
- c) Managing community expectations: the community is aware of the bid but not of much of the detailed components. There is an ongoing need to find ways of communicating widely within the community which would be a focus during the development phase.
- d) Changes in partner circumstances and commitments: if during the delivery period partners could not deliver their committed funding or support, it would be the responsibility of the partnership to find alternative sources of funding in line with HLF requirements.
- e) Project ideas cannot be delivered as proposed at Stage 1: there remains a relatively high degree of flexibility to reshape projects in the development phase and beyond, if there are better or alternative ways to deliver the outcomes HLF seek.

## **Next Steps**

- 20. We expect to hear whether the Stage 1 bid is successful in September 2014. If it is, then we begin a development phase lasting through 2015/16 during which a Stage 2 bid is developed.
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## **Supporting Information**

A Landscape Partnership must deliver 9 outcomes required by HLF, which have a strong synergy with our National Park Partnership outcomes:

- a) Heritage is better managed
- b) Heritage is in better condition
- c) Heritage is identified/recorded
- d) People have developed skills
- e) People have learnt about heritage
- f) People have volunteered time
- g) Environmental impacts will be reduced
- h) More people and a wider range of people will have engaged with heritage
- i) The area/community will be a better place to live, work or visit.

**Hamish Trench**

6<sup>th</sup> June 2014

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