

## Managing for Visitors - Deeside Plan

### Overview

The CNPA and its partners will be working within the national visitor management framework (#RespectProtectEnjoy) and the #CairngormsTogether framework to develop Managing for Visitors plans for key areas in the Park. These Managing for Visitors plans dovetail and support site based visitor management plans and estate management objectives.

### Objectives

The purpose of the Deeside managing for visitors plan is to

- Provide a warm welcome and support exceptional experiences for the public to enjoy the outdoors:
- Mitigate any negative impacts from increased recreation in sensitive or popular sites:
- Reduce potential conflict between residents and visitors:
- Promote collaboration across estate and organisational boundaries ensuring a positive visitor experience.
- Agree visitor infrastructure priorities for the area

### On the Ground Ranger Resources

Organisation	Numbers
CNPA	3 Seasonal Rangers in place (+ 2 permanent rangers being recruited)
Balmoral	2 + 2 seasonal Rangers
Glen Tanar	1.4 Rangers
NTS	3 Rangers + 2 Visitor Services Assts
NatureScot	Seasonal NNR Staff
FLS	One Ranger covering the Aberdeenshire area
Aberdeenshire Council	1 full-time Ranger for Marr area.
Invercauld Estate	1.9 FTE- mix of part-time ranger and estate staff

### Key Hotspots

A risk rating for each site identified is given as follows:

	Very popular, pinch points on trails, could be on a dead end road, limited parking and overspill sites, popular hills or beauty spots, heavily promoted by 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties, close to main transport routes i.e trunk roads and accessible from large towns.
	Popular, parking previously sufficient for level of use, setting off point for hills or beauty spots and promoted by 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties, likely to experience overspill from nearby popular sites.
	Less popular, sufficient parking, generally used by residents.

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Table One- Rural 'Hotspots'

Key Countryside Location	Risk	Manager	Onsite support (including estimated FTE coverage)	Parking facilities	Public toilets
Muir of Dinnet		NatureScot	SNH Site Manager and Aberdeenshire Ranger	37	Yes
Cambus O May		FLS	FLS Ranger (0.1)	30	No
Cambus O May Bridge		Dinnet estate		8	No
Glen Tanar		Glen Tanar Estate	GCT Ranger Service (1.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top car park - 5</li> <li>• Visitor Centre - 35</li> <li>• Overflow - 26</li> </ul>	Yes
Loch Muick		Balmoral Estate	Balmoral Ranger Service (2)	Glen Muick 60 spaces plus coach park,	Yes
Keiloch Car Park		Invercauld Estate	Staff but no ranger	40 spaces	Yes
Linn of Dee		NTS	NTS Ranger Service (2)	Linn of Dee 150 cars. Quoich 40 cars.	Yes (temporary toilets)
Callater		Invercauld Estate	Staff but no ranger	20 spaces	No

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Clunie Flats		Invercauld Estate	Staff but no ranger		
Glenshee Ski Centre		Glenshee		large	yes

Table Two-Community 'Hotspots'

Community	Risk	Community Path Leaflet (y/n)	Popular Routes	Onsite Support (including estimated FTE coverage)	Parking facilities	Public toilets
Strathdon		Y	Ben Newe and the Doune	Aberdeenshire Council Ranger Service (0.1)	Small	yes
Dinnet		Y	Loch Kinord, Deeside Way	Aberdeenshire Council Ranger Service (0.1)	20 cars	Yes
Ballater		Y	Deeside Way, Craigandarroch, Riverside path	Aberdeenshire Council Ranger Service (0.2)	<a href="#">Church Square</a> 45 free spaces 6 free lorry/bus spaces 2 disabled spaces  <a href="#">Station Square (Front)</a> 19 free spaces 4 disabled spaces  <a href="#">Station Square (Rear)</a> 26 free spaces	The Square, AB35 5NE with disabled and baby change. Date tbc

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Crathie		N	Riverside Path	Balmoral Estate Ranger Service (0.1)	136 cars, 5 camper vans plus 8 coaches so pretty much space for 150 cars + overflow capacity.	Yes
Braemar		Y	Creag Choinnich, Lions Face and Morrone	Aberdeenshire Council Ranger Service (0.2)	<a href="#">Balnellan Road</a> 28 free spaces 3 disabled spaces 1 electric vehicle charge point (50kw)  <a href="#">The Mews</a> 18 free spaces (unmarked) 3 disabled spaces 14 non-covered cycle spaces	Balnellan Road, AB35 5YP with disabled and baby change. Date tbc
Aboyne		Y		Aberdeenshire Council	<a href="#">Station Square (Front)</a> 41 free spaces 2 electric vehicle charge points (50kw)  <a href="#">Station Square (Rear)</a> 20 free spaces (unmarked)  <a href="#">Shopping Square</a> 56 free spaces 4 disabled spaces 10 non-covered cycle spaces	Ballater Road, AB34 5HY with disabled & baby change. Date tbc

## Deeside Visitor Management Plan

### Key Actions

Action	Owner	Timescale	Priority	Actions/ Updates
<b>Signage</b>				
Consistent signage for sites & access to be developed and distributed before Easter 21	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Sent to all relevant Estates before Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resources including posters, social media graphics and leaflets on core “tread lightly in the Park” messages:</li> <li>Develop protocols for time limited site specific messages and signage</li> </ul>
Variable message signs to be deployed at agreed key locations	Pete Crane, CNPA Richard Murray, AC Estates	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New permanent variable message sign being grant aided by CNPA for Aberdeenshire Council to install at Glen Muick entrance. Funding also being made available for a moveable variable message sign.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitor Information</b>				
Consistent messages deployed across partners. CNPA & other websites kept up to date with latest information.	Olly Davies, CNPA Pete Crane, CNPA Mark Tate, CBP Chris Foy, VA	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>#CairngormsTogether &amp; #RespectProtectEnjoy communications approach and assets being developed for Easter.</li> <li>Websites to be updated.</li> </ul>
Develop “real time” information for car park management and promotion	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Easter 21	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities for link VMS signs with car park sensors</li> <li>Develop web page for car park status</li> </ul>
<b>Ranger Services</b>				

Ranger Partnership Framework – Maintain and enhance family of Cairngorms Ranger Services. Develop approach for CNPA Ranger Services with input from estate – based ranger services and managers.	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Easter 21	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 CNPA Seasonal Rangers in place from 15 March.</li> <li>• Deeside Ranger Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March.</li> <li>• CNPA supporting Glen Tanar &amp; Balmoral Ranger Services with grant-in-aid</li> <li>• Seasonal Ranger Training has been undertaken</li> <li>• Effective communication channels have been put in place between all ranger services and land managers.</li> <li>• 2 CNPA permanent rangers being recruited</li> </ul>
Police Scotland – work with Police Scotland to establish a better line of communication for dealing with incidents in the Park in Deeside.	Grant Moir, CNPA & Matt Smith, Police Scotland	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting between CNPA &amp; Police Scotland has taken place.</li> <li>• Joint patrolling to be put in place as required.</li> <li>• Intelligence lead patrols</li> </ul>
<b>Traffic Management</b>				
Develop appropriate TTO's and traffic calming measures for Loch Muick, Linn of Dee and Burn O'Vat that can be deployed as required during the summer season	Richard Murray, AC	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary Traffic Orders (TTO) in place for Glen Muick &amp; Linn of Dee from Easter to October:</li> <li>• Work underway to look at bollards and line painting for B9119.</li> </ul>
Agree resource deployment with key Estates to enable traffic management to be delivered e.g. seasonal traffic assistants?	Pete Crane, CNPA David Few, NTS Richard Geldson, Balmoral	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic 'marshall' funding approach in place between CNPA &amp; NTS and Balmoral. Protocol for operation agreed.</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of cones etc. to limited roadside parking at key pinch points</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure 2021</b>				
Infrastructure Improvements underway or in the pipeline.	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Summer 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant in aid support for NTS for increasing car park capacity at Linn of Dee &amp; Quoich</li> <li>• Car capacity increase at Loch Muick being taken forward by Balmoral Estate. Hopefully in place for June.</li> <li>• Development of temporary car parking at Clarack nr Dinnet for NNR with Dinnet Estate. Temporary planning application should be submitted shortly. Also looking at longer-term phase 2.</li> <li>• Looking at ways to stop verge parking with Aberdeenshire Council nr entrance to NatureScot facility at Muir of Dinnet.</li> <li>• Public toilet at Glenshee being upgraded through RTIF</li> <li>• Discussions ongoing with GlenTanar around temporary car park.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure &amp; Services – Longer Term</b>				
Work ongoing to produce agreed 3-5 year infrastructure improvement programme (link to new NPPP)				