

NATIONAL PARK CONTEXT

The general purpose of a National Park authority is to ensure that the National Park aims are collectively achieved in relation to the National Park in a co-ordinated way.

The National Park aims are:

- (a) to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area.
- (b) to promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area.
- (c) to promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public.
- (d) to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

The aims must operate together in a co-ordinated and integrated way; they are not polar opposites. One of the challenges of the National Park is to integrate those important aims.

The An Camas Mòr team has taken this requirement very seriously and how the plan meets the aims and adds to the special qualities of the Park is detailed in the accompanying Planning Statement.

NATIONAL SCENIC AREA CONTEXT

The National Scenic Area was designated in 1980. The intention eventually is to subsume this designation within the National Park Plans once they are adopted to safeguard and enhance the NSA interests. The part of the citation relevant to An Camas Mòr refers to the woodland flanks of the Cairngorm plateau forming a setting for the mountain massif, which is in turn enhanced by the mountain backdrop and in Rothiemurchus the mixture of native pine and birch woodland carpeted with a rich ground flora. Within the An Camas Mòr boundary the ancient woodland in the south east part of the site would be conserved and existing trees elsewhere within the site would be retained to create the woodland setting for the new community. The underlying character and integrity of the NSA would remain essentially unaltered by the introduction of the new community.

REGIONAL CONTEXT

Highland and Islands Enterprise has set out its strategy for developing a competitive region in its operating plan 2008 to 2011. This focuses on sustainable economic growth with one of its priorities being a supportive business environment and quality of place. Critical requirements to achieve this include growing the population in every part of the region so that it rises to half a million in a generation and allowing those propulsive businesses in the region to grow.

The Aviemore area is seen as a growth point for this type of business. An Camas Mòr would help facilitate this strategy by providing the quality of place for the growing population and by providing a home for small scale propulsive businesses.