

HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
TUESDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER 2014
Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority (NPA) – Report

Local Development Plan: LIVE Park – The consultation period finished in July and we had a great response with 130 individuals or organisations submitting their views. We also had over 80 comments via our website and blog pages, around 350 followers on our Facebook page and just under 300 followers on our Twitter account. We are now working to get all the comments recorded, collated and analysed so we will be able to see what issues, changes or alternatives are outlined and what this means for the preferred approach for the four Main Issues. We hope to provide a summary report of the response to the National Park Board at its meeting in September. More information on the process and progress so far can be found here: <http://www.ourlivepark.com/live-park-reviewing-your-feedback/>

Wild Park 2020

Wild Park 2020 is the second edition of the National Park Biodiversity Plan. It sets out our strategy for achieving the long term vision for the National Park's biodiversity.

The plan outlines over 90 projects which the National Park Authority and our partner organisations aim to achieve over the plan period and our focus on five areas in particular, our Wild Challenge Projects. The final plan was approved by the National Park Board back in March 2014 and is progressing well during the summer season with increased interest from our many visitors.

Nature conservation is at the very heart of what Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park stands for. We want to inspire as many people as possible to help us look after the extraordinary natural beauty that lies within our National Park.

Through visiting our wild web pages we are introducing visitors to some of the most beautiful and valuable species in the National Park along with some of the not-so-nice characters. The plan includes a number of 'Wild Challenges': saving the red squirrel, managing invasive non-native species, protecting our mountain bogs, black grouse and our woodland habitat networks and visitors are encouraged to find out about the whole host of other wild and wonderful projects the National Park is working on with a wide range of partners as part of Wild Park 2020 – our strategy for nature conservation.

Community Partnership Heritage Programme - This Programme of events started with a mini heritage networking event at the 3 Villages Hall, Arrochar on the 9th August (an opportunity to offer support to communities as part of their ongoing WW1 research) and leads up to a 'WW1 Commemorative Showcase' event on the 1st November. The Showcase will be a collaborative Park-wide Heritage presentation of our communities' service, spirit and sacrifice and our way of remembering and presenting a broad picture of as many aspects of each community's wartime experience during the Great War. Local primary schools in the National Park, have all been invited to take part in a 'culinary competition' for children to research and design a WW1 themed and

inspired menu which will be served up to delegates at the WW1 Commemorative Showcase. For more information please contact Marie Harvey on 01389 722639.

Publication of Scotland's first Marine Litter Strategy.

Given the regular impact at the Head of the Loch's in the NP we are notifying relevant communities of this strategy which aims to reduce the levels of litter entering the seas and brings together measures for education and awareness raising, seizing opportunities and economic growth, the collection of reliable data and influencing actions more widely. The strategy will deliver national priorities and will also contribute to meeting the obligations under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive to achieve good Environmental Status.

Information can be found at;

News item: <http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Turning-the-tide-on-marine-litter-ff9.aspx>
Strategy (pdf): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0045/00457889.pdf>

10th September Scottish Rural Parliament local event - The Community Partnership is holding an event for people and around the National Park to help decide what issues should be raised at the first Rural Parliament in Oban later this year. The event is taking place from 4pm to 7pm at the Balloch NPA offices and aims to gather information on what the challenges are on-the-ground'. A light buffet will be served. To book your place or for more information please contact Marie at 01389 722639/722134 or marie.harvey@lochlomondtrossachs.org.