

ROYAL BURGH OF WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CONSULTATIONS WORKING PARTY – March 2016

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

a) Transport Surveys – SWestrans. Closing date – 27 May 2016

SWestrans (the Transport Partnership for Dumfries and Galloway) has aspirations for rail station re-openings for the Thornhill, Eastriggs, Dunragit/Glenluce./Newton Stewart/The Machars and Beattock areas. Peter Brett Associates have been commissioned to undertake Sustainable Transport Options Studies and the initial stage in the appraisal involves identification of transport problems which affect the area and the surrounding communities on a day to day basis. They are also looking at the potential opportunities that could be realised through improved transport.

Peter Brett Associates is currently analysing evidence of transport problems and identifying future opportunities across the areas. They would like the opinions of the local community to supplement their research.

Individuals can complete one or more of the online surveys.

- [Eastriggs transport study](#)
- [Thornhill transport study](#)
- [Dunragit/Glenluce/The Machars/Newton Stewart transport study](#)
- [Beattock transport study.](#)

b) Consultation on landing controls for the Scottish crab and lobster fisheries – Marine Scotland. Closing date: 20 May 2016

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/marine-scotland/crab-lobster-landing-controls>

Scotland's brown crab, velvet crab and lobster fisheries are of great importance to many coastal communities with landings worth £32 million being recorded in 2014. The Scottish fishing industry has expressed growing concern at the health of these fisheries and called for their management to be improved. The island communities of Orkney, the Outer Hebrides and Shetland have already introduced individual management arrangements for their crab and lobster fisheries. Marine Scotland is seeking views on landing controls that it proposes to introduce throughout the rest of the Scottish coast.

These measures are as follows:

- increasing the minimum landing size for brown crab, velvet crab and lobster
- decreasing the maximum landing size for female lobster and introducing a maximum landing size for male lobster
- prohibiting the landing of berried (egg bearing) velvet crab
- prohibiting the landing of 'crippled' lobsters (those missing one or both claws)
- introducing prohibitions on sale and carriage to match any landing prohibitions that are implemented on a uniform basis across the entire Scottish coast

Calls for new landing controls have been made from right around the Scottish coast. However, Marine Scotland is aware that some fishermen may feel that the proposed measures may not be appropriate for their respective areas. They have therefore provided opportunities in the consultation for respondents to suggest areas where any new arrangements should not be introduced. Having said that, the maps and data provided in the consultation document do not include the Solway fisheries and the western Scottish coast seems to stop at the Ayrshire border.

c) Gaelic Language Plan – Dumfries & Galloway Council. Closing date: 18 April

This consultation is a part of the process of developing DGC's Gaelic language plan, now in draft form. An official letter of notification from Bòrd na Gàidhlig has been received by the Council, asking that they develop a plan by early 2016. Under the Gaelic Language Act (Scotland) 2005, there is a statutory requirement for all public bodies in Scotland to draw up such a plan.

-  [Read the Gaelic language plan in English \[286kb\]](#)

-  [Comhairle Dhùn Phris is Gall-Ghàidhealaibh Dreachd Plana Gàidhlig \[225kb\]](#)

Note the “draft plan” states that “*Dumfries and Galloway Council’s Gaelic Plan will be submitted to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for approval on 28th of February 2016*”. ie on a Sunday two days before the consultation opened.

Any comment should be sent by post to Melinda Dolan, Policy and Performance Advisor , Chief Executives Service , Dumfries and Galloway Council , DG1 2DD or email:

EqualityandDiversity@dumgal.gov.uk

d) Cairnsmore of Fleet National Nature Reserve – SNH. Closing date: 22 April 2016.

SNH are currently consulting on the next 10-year management plan for Cairnsmore of Fleet NNR. Cairnsmore of Fleet National Nature Reserve (NNR) is a nationally important upland site managed by SNH and they would like to hear the views of people with an interest in the future of Cairnsmore of Fleet NNR.

There are limitations on what they can change in terms of managing the natural heritage as they are obliged to protect it. However there is scope to alter or do things differently in terms of how they manage the reserve for visitors and educational groups and they would welcome ideas or comments on these aspects.

See attached summary of how they propose to manage the reserve over the next 10 years and you can get more detail by emailing SNH (southern_scotland_admin@snh.gov.uk) and they will send a list of objectives and tasks.

There will two drop in events during the consultation - Gatehouse of Fleet Community Centre from 5 to 8pm on Friday 8 April; and Creetown Gem Rock Museum from 5 to 8pm on Friday 15 April

FORTHCOMING CONSULTATIONS

No Forthcoming Consultations



Scotland's
National Nature
Reserves
Magical places, amazing wildlife.

Cairnsmore of Fleet National Nature Reserve (NNR) is a nationally important upland site in southern Scotland managed by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). We are in the process of producing a new management plan for the reserve.

We would like to hear the views of people with an interest in the future of Cairnsmore of Fleet. There is very little we can change in terms of managing the natural heritage as we are obliged to protect it. However there is scope for us to alter or do things differently in terms of how we manage the reserve to engage with people on and off site. We would welcome ideas or comments on these aspects.

This leaflet provides a summary of how we propose to manage the reserve over the next 10 years. If you would like more detail please contact us for a list of projects.

More information

Tel: 03000 673 200

Email: SOUTHERN_SCOTLAND_ADMIN@snh.gov.uk

<http://www.nnr-scotland.org.uk/cairnsmore-of-fleet/>

Please follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code



Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba



GALLOWAY AND
SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE
BIOSPHERE



Photography: © Scottish Natural Heritage. Original design by ec-design studio.



Cairnsmore of Fleet National Nature Reserve

Management Plan Consultation



Scottish Natural Heritage would like to hear your views on our plans proposed for Cairnsmore of Fleet NNR.

The consultation will run from 11th March - 22nd April 2016.

Let us know what you think by sending us your comments on the enclosed form, emailing us or having a chat with us at Gatehouse of Fleet or Creetown evening sessions:

Drop in events: Gatehouse of Fleet Community Centre from 17.00 to 20.00 on Friday 8th April.

Creetown Gem Rock Museum, from 17.00 to 20.00 on Friday 15th April 2016.



Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba



GALLOWAY AND
SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE
BIOSPHERE

Our vision for Cairnsmore of Fleet NNR

Cairnsmore of Fleet continues to be one of the wildest places to visit in Southern Scotland. It is accessible for visitors and provides good opportunities for exploring, whether you are looking for the rugged beauty of the Galloway Hills or superb views out to the Cree Estuary and the Solway Firth.

Visitors enjoy and appreciate the sense of place and the “wild nature” experience, a sentiment shared by local people and communities who value the reserve.

The reserve fulfils its role as part of the Core Area of the Biosphere. We engage with local communities and specialist groups encouraging them to be actively involved on the reserve. We will support community led initiatives in delivering benefits to communities as we adopt an ecosystem services approach.

The reserve is flourishing, in itself and in relation to its surroundings and supports a range of plants, invertebrates and birds typical of the Galloway Hills.

Natural Heritage Management

Maintain and enhance SSSI notified interests

- We will produce a grazing management strategy to guide our management of deer, goats and domestic livestock to enable habitat recovery.
- We will manage and monitor the blanket bog, wet heath and dry heath.

Monitor effects of management and climate change to inform long-term trends

- We will monitor changes associated with land management and climate change.
- We will monitor indicator species and key seasonal events.

Improve biodiversity and manage key species to improve resilience

- We will create corridors to connect habitats on and adjacent to the reserve.
- We will manage pest species, pathogens and invasive non-native species as necessary.
- We will manage and monitor biodiversity.
- We will support the work of the Galloway Fisheries Trust and other partners.



Management for People

Promote Cairnsmore of Fleet's importance to a wider audience

- We will write a communication and promotion plan.
- We will work with partners to jointly promote and interpret the reserve and its surrounding landscape.
- We will work with partners to support delivery of the goals of the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere and the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area.

Improve visitors' experience so people value and enjoy their visit to the reserve and the wider area

- We will update interpretation and signage.
- We will work with key partners to deliver an integrated approach to visitor management including improving access routes to the main hill.

Engage with the local community and communities of interest on and off site

- We will develop and deliver an engagement plan informed by community feedback.
- We will offer involvement opportunities for the local community, volunteers and schools.
- We will run an events programme.
- We will engage with local businesses, specialists and partners to deliver biosphere objectives, management tasks and enhance ecosystem services on and around the reserve.

Questionnaire

Are there any species projects you would like us to consider on Cairnsmore of Fleet?

How could Cairnsmore of Fleet be more relevant to you?

How can we encourage people to come and explore the reserve?

Would you be willing to contribute to the implementation of the management plan? If yes, how would you like to be involved?

General comments:

Name:

Contact: