

## IMPORTANT PREFACE

This draft document was considered by the Ross and Cromarty Area Planning Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2003. At that time it was agreed that –

- ◆ ***Efforts should be continued with Scottish Natural Heritage and the Wester Ross Alliance to progress and deliver a number of immediate projects, and that the forthcoming preparation of the Wester Ross Local Plan should be used to progress some of the policy oriented actions arising out of the Management Strategy; and that***
- ◆ ***Efforts are made with Dumfries and Galloway Council together with Scottish Natural Heritage to lobby the Scottish Executive to formally respond to the 1999 SNH Advice to Government on National Scenic Areas, to reaffirm its support for NSAs/Management Strategies, and to take action itself to positively influence policy and resources in favour of NSAs.***

Following further consideration at the Council's West Coast Sub Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2003 the draft document was considered further by the Ross and Cromarty Area Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2003. At that time it was agreed that –

- ◆ ***Any decision on the adoption of the Management Strategy should be deferred pending consideration of the Wester Ross Local Plan review.***

Therefore this draft document has not been adopted or approved by The Highland Council. It will be considered further by the Council at a later date in the context of the policy coverage of the replacement Wester Ross Local Plan.

In the meantime the document was accepted and approved by Scottish Natural Heritage at the meeting of the North Areas Board on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2002. Various other agencies and organisations and some Community Councils have also indicated a willingness to work in partnership to achieve the implementation of the strategy, although importantly other Community Councils do not accept this document as it currently stands.

While it remains in draft form, the document from the point of view of The Highland Council has no policy status. However it can be used to seek positive opportunities for project implementation in the NSA, and to raise the profile of NSAs in the Scottish Executive's review of designations.