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Dear Jane

CNPA SUPPORT FOR BURNFIELD TOILETS PROJECT

On behalf of Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA), I am writing to confirm our wholehearted support for the Grantown Initiative (GI) Project to acquire the Burnfield toilets on behalf of the Grantown community and to operate and maintain them in a sustainable manner. We understand from the GI board that the transfer request will be considered by Highland Council committee in February 2021 and are submitting this letter of support, in order to clarify the CNPA's position on this matter and aid the committee's decision making.

The Authority fully supports the GI with this project, understanding the benefits it will bring to the Grantown community and visitors to the area. The town has a vibrant community which puts on several large events throughout the normal year, attracting substantial numbers of people to the main square. The loss of the Burnfield toilets has been keenly felt on these occasions and reopening them under community ownership would bring significant benefits for locals and visitors alike.

The Authority is also working hard with partners to address issues associated with the significant increase in campervans to the National Park in recent years, one of which is the availability and promotion of, waste disposal facilities. Indeed we are currently funding work by the Cairngorms Business Partnership to quantify existing provision and implement a good practice campaign through the rental agencies and CAMPA network. We recognise that the existing network of provision is in places patchy or not particularly accessible and will need to be augmented at key locations. We are keen that positive action is taken so that all campervan waste is disposed of in a controlled and environmentally friendly way.

The proposals by the GI for a waste disposal point at the Burnfield toilets fit extremely well with these objectives. Additionally this project could be an exemplar of how other communities to address this issue in their area. As such, we endorse Grantown Initiative's aspiration to provide such a waste disposal facility as part of the Burnfield toilets acquisition and refurbishment.

Yours sincerely



MURRAY FERGUSON
Director of Planning and Rural Development