



## Angus Glens Land Management Plan - Scoping Consultation Feedback Summary

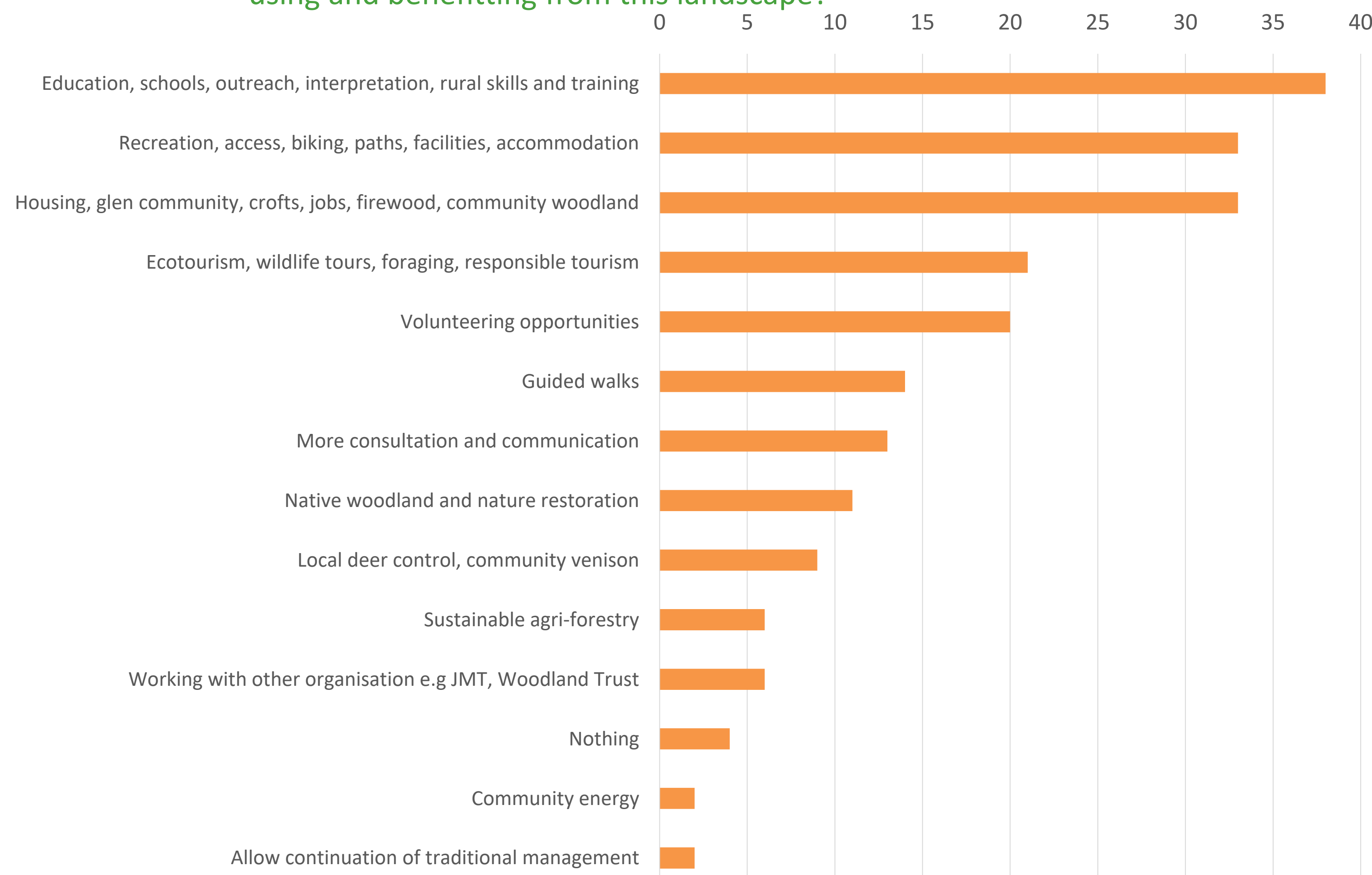
The initial scoping consultation for the new Angus Glens Land Management Plan (LMP), covering Glen Prosen and Glen Doll, aimed to find out what people think is special about the glens, what opportunities and challenges there are and how people and communities want to be involved. We undertook a short public survey and public engagement events to help us identify and better understand the important issues and opportunities for the plan; scoping letters sent out to all statutory consultees; site meetings with stakeholders; and a two-day 'Pathfinder' stakeholder and staff event. In total 83 people attended the public engagement drop-in events in October and 151 survey responses were received across the six-week period in Oct-Nov 2023.

The survey was available to complete online via the Angus Glens web page and also on paper at Glen Doll Ranger Centre and other public events and was open from 1st October – 16th November. The survey contained five open questions:

1. What is special about the forest and land at Glen Doll and Glen Prosen to you?
2. What do you think are the opportunities for this landscape in the future?
3. Is there anything you think we could do differently in terms of how we manage the land and forest for people, nature and climate?
4. Do you have ideas for how people and communities can be involved in using and benefitting from this landscape?
5. Please can you tell us whereabouts you live, so that we can get a better understanding of where our visitors come from.

The survey and public events was publicised on the Angus Glens web page, via email to stakeholders and partners, FLS social media channels and posters in the local area

### Q4. Do you have ideas for how people and communities can be involved in using and benefitting from this landscape?



Word Cloud showing top 50 words in response to Q1 of scoping survey

### Key themes and issues that have come out of the scoping:

- Support for creation of new native woodland
- Local economy and jobs – how can ecological restoration create economic benefits?
- Importance of the natural beauty, landform and wildlife
- Need to maintain and improve access and interpretation for visitors
- Herbivore management is critical to success
- Opportunities for education, training and research
- River restoration and flood mitigation
- Historic and cultural landscape – how can we celebrate the past whilst looking to the future?
- Integration of different types of land use for long term sustainability

### What are we doing next...?

Between Nov 2023 and Mar 2024 we have been analysing the feedback and surveying undertaken during scoping period to inform draft concept plans for Glen Prosen and Glen Doll – including plans for new native woodland creation, habitat restoration and harvesting of the windblow and mature crop in the forest plantations. We are preparing for the second round of consultation on these draft plans in May and June 2024, which will include public events and open days on site, online information and visualisations, stakeholder and community meetings and further opportunity to leave written feedback, comments and ideas.

In the meantime, if you have experience or knowledge to share, ideas on things we could do differently, or if you just want to know more about what we are up to please do get in touch. We would be very happy to speak arrange a meeting or site visit. Contact Chris or Sophie on [angusglens@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:angusglens@forestryandland.gov.scot).



Photographs showing scoping consultation events and information display Oct 2023

### Conclusions of scoping consultation

- Strong support for creation of native woodland, particularly broadleaves and also increasing diversity and structure of existing forests
- Wider nature restoration should go alongside this e.g. peatland restoration, river restoration, open habitats restoration, recognizing opportunities for natural capital investment.
- Key quality of the glens is the wild and remote feel – strong desire for this to be protected
- Strong need to engage and involve local communities, particularly those living in the glens and also further afield. Communities of interest/conservation organisations also important.
- Access to the glens for visitors is important – mainly through Glen Doll but also access should be open and inclusive everywhere, removing barriers such as windblow or lack of information and improving facilities where possible.
- Managing herbivore impact, particularly of deer, complex issue that has been widely recognized as a key issue in terms of woodland creation – ongoing dialogue with interested parties needed to work at landscape scale
- Desire to develop educational opportunities around responsible access, rural skills, conservation and forestry.
- Desire to create economic benefit for local community – jobs, affordable housing, crofting, new economic activity within the glens
- Some concerns over change in land management resulting in loss of some species/habitats over time – need to be transparent about this
- Ongoing monitoring and evidence of changes over time will be key – monitoring framework should allow for adaptive management