

Councillors will discuss the National Park proposal at a special meeting of Dumfries and Galloway Council at The Bridge, Dumfries on **Wednesday 5th February 2025 at 2pm**. Join us from 1pm outside the meeting for a peaceful demonstration to show opposition to the National Park.



Get in touch:  [nogallowaynationalpark](https://www.facebook.com/nogallowaynationalpark) | email: info@nogallowaynationalpark.org

www.nogallowaynationalpark.org



You can find the consultation at: <https://newnationalparkgalloway.commonplace.is/en-gb/proposals/consultation-surveys/step1> - or by scanning the QR code.

Do not miss your chance to say NO.

The Consultation closes on Friday 14th February 2025.



National Parks throughout the UK are struggling. Instead of reviewing those already in existence, the Scottish Government has commissioned NatureScot to hold a consultation on the proposed Galloway National Park. Although this consultation is fundamentally biased, it is essential that as many people as possible respond to the Consultation.



'YES TO GALLOWAY, NO TO A NATIONAL PARK'

Here are 6 reasons why you should say NO to a National Park:

1 GOVERNANCE: *Yes to local accountability, No to central government control*
National Parks are run by a park authority, directly accountable to Scottish Ministers, not the local community.
The Consultation states that 'at least 60% of Board members would be local representatives.' However, 30% of board members are Scottish Government appointments answerable to ministers. Experience of board members in other parks shows the Minister calls the shots.



2 CONSERVATION: *Yes to protecting nature, No to unmanageable tourism*
Proponents of a new National Park describe potential for economic development through increased tourism due to the National Park brand.
No detail is given to how nature will be protected from the enormous stress of mass tourism – soil erosion, increased pollution, habitat loss, littering and noise pollution.

3 INVESTMENT: *Yes to investment in infrastructure and services, No to costly bureaucracy*
Infrastructure in Dumfries and Galloway, including key roads like the A75 and A77, is not fit for purpose and local public services are over-stretched.
Funding for a new National Park is supposedly around £10million. This money should be spent upgrading our roads, growing the economy, and improving vital public services.



4 HOUSING: *Yes to affordable housing, No to second homes and holiday lets*
Availability of affordable housing in Scottish National Parks is constrained by high prices driven by demand for second homes and holiday rentals.
Dumfries and Galloway declared a 'Housing Emergency' last year. A National Park would add stress to an already significant problem, making it harder for younger generations or low-income families to live in the area and contribute to the local economy.

5 ECONOMY: *Yes to sustainable employment, No to low wage seasonal jobs*
Being a designated National Park does not automatically boost local economies and will do little to create well-paid jobs with real career prospects not reliant on passing visitor trade.



6 LAND USE RESTRICTIONS: *Yes to supporting farmers, No to oppressive regulation*
Crippling environmental regulations bring restrictions on land use. Support was given through the Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Act – the last thing that is now needed is restrictions on farmers and the mature Dumfries and Galloway agricultural economy.

If this is to be a National Park made in Galloway, for Galloway – then the people of Galloway should have the final say!

If the Scottish Government agree to Dumfries & Galloway Council's request for a local referendum, it would only happen after the Consultation period, so please do not forget to submit your views to NatureScot's consultation.

Protect the rural economy

A survey carried out by NFUS found that 73% of respondents did not want a National Park - support our farmers and vitally important agricultural industry.

Join us

Keep up to date with the discussion on the proposed National Park and Consultation. Sign up to our weekly newsletter via the website and join our Facebook group.

Have your say

NatureScot's Consultation closes on 14th February 2025. Submit your views on the proposal before then.

Sign up to our newsletter and stay up to date with latest news and key issues on our website:

www.nogallowaynationalpark.org