

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

NatureScot will be holding a few meetings and one-to-one surgeries around the region. Go along if you can and have your say, your community councils should provide information on these.

**PLEASE email NatureScot and give your reasons in full as to why you object and also what you believe would be the impact if this were to go ahead.**

[nationalparkreporter@nature.scot](mailto:nationalparkreporter@nature.scot)

Please urge your Community Councils to be proactive and to hold public meetings on the subject. Also:

- Write to your local MSP
- Write to your local Councillor
- Engage with your community via local Facebook and websites - get people talking about what a National Park will mean to them.

**THIS IS YOUR CHANCE  
TO HAVE YOUR SAY -  
MAKE IT COUNT!**

**DON'T  
DELAY...  
SAY 'NO'  
TODAY**

## A GALLOWAY NATIONAL PARK:

- X **WILL** increase traffic on our inadequate roads
- X **WILL NOT** upgrade the infrastructure
- X **WILL** increase parking problems
- X **WILL NOT** benefit the communities
- X **WILL NOT** stop wind farms
- X **WILL NOT** stop the erection of pylons
- X **WILL** increase house prices, both buying & rental
- X **WILL** increase holiday homes & second home ownership
- X **WILL** only provide low paid, seasonal jobs
- X **WILL NOT** provide meaningful employment
- X **WILL** increase uncontrolled tourism which will be detrimental to the environment
- X **WILL** add another layer of bureaucracy to our already outdated planning system
- X **WILL** be run by an undemocratic board who will not be accountable to us
- X **WILL** cost millions to run with no real benefit to the people who live and work here



**ACT NOW,**

**Email your councillor, mp and msp  
AND SAY NO GALLOWAY  
NATIONAL PARK!**



**GALLOWAY  
NATIONAL  
PARK**

[nogallowaynationalpark](https://www.facebook.com/nogallowaynationalpark)

[nogallowaynp@gmail.com](mailto:nogallowaynp@gmail.com)

**NO**

**DON'T  
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SAY 'NO'  
TODAY**

Galloway has been proposed as the location for Scotland's next National Park. But it's not set in stone, YET. **At this stage it is still a proposal.** Following a consultation by NatureScot, the Scottish Government will take a final decision on National Park status and draw up a designation order for further consultation, before approval by the Scottish Parliament in 2026. NatureScot will be sending information about this to every household within the proposed National Park area very soon.

**South West Scotland** has suffered from years of neglect, lack of foresight and archaic planning regulations. There are many reasons why we believe having a National Park will do nothing to rectify this situation.

- *Towns and villages in the proposed area are all in need of inward investment. If money is available, it should be spent improving the lives and well being of the residents, not squandered on a vanity project which is likely to cost in the region of **£15million per annum.***
- *Our infrastructure is not fit for purpose. A 'Euro Route' running through two villages is not acceptable. Politicians have been promising upgrades year after year, but yet nothing happens.*
- *We need forward-thinking and innovative councils who encourage inward-investment to provide meaningful employment for our young people, so they don't have to move away.*
- *Low paid, seasonal work in the tourist industry is not the way forward, in fact some hotels and pubs are already struggling to find staff.*



### What we can learn from other National Parks in the UK...

- ✗ **Housing** Other National Parks have clearly shown an increase in house prices which will outpace the locals, changing the demographic as more elderly, retired people move into the area and youngsters are forced to leave. Second home ownership and holiday lets will add to this problem.
- ✗ **Suitability** Galloway is a highly productive agricultural and forestry area. A National Park is likely to increase bureaucracy and stifle innovation, the consequence of which would mean the rural economy would suffer. Prioritising tourism and visitor access over farming and business will be to the detriment of the rural economy and the natural environment.

An extra 250-500k visitors to the region may bring prosperity to some people, but at what cost?

- ✗ **Issues** Such as littering, lighting camp fires, cutting down or damaging trees, emptying sewage waste into rivers & lochs, farm gates being left open, dry walls being taken down and camping in crop fields. Residents, farmers, landowners, livestock, crops, wildlife, coastal regions, nature, flora and fauna will all suffer from the impact of tourism.
- ✗ **Restrictions** On development seen at odds with National Park policies beyond 'normal' existing planning policies.
- ✗ **Loss of income** Some existing operations may face closure or limitations because they may be perceived 'unsuitable' or 'contrary' to park objectives and goals.
- ✗ **Loss of flexibility and local control** Increased administration and regulations may lengthen time in decision-making, getting permission or being refused the same.
- ✗ **Increased traffic and related issues** Irresponsible parking, route restrictions or development; more people making demands on existing local services and facilities.
- ✗ **Democracy** We can elect our Councillors, MP's and MSP's BUT we would have no control over who was running the National Park.

**Galloway National Park Association** *The GNPA have clearly demonstrated that they care little for public opinion. In the 7 years they have been campaigning, they have held just 12 poorly advertised public meetings. They boast of overwhelming public support and quote a poll of just 430 people as evidence of this. GNPA do not appear to have judged what level of tourism would be sustainable, what level of traffic feasible, what infrastructure would be needed, what the impact would be for communities when services are already stretched. No controls have been suggested, or even considered.*

*If the GNPA truly believe there is public support for their proposal they would back a referendum and let the people decide.*

**ACT NOW AND SAY NO!**  
Stop the National Park from going ahead...