

National Park Authority Board Meeting

Agenda Item 14 – Appendix 1

Written Statement: Petra Biberbach



Statement by Nominated Candidate:

I have been a member of the Board and Chair of the Planning & Access Committee since 2014. I have enjoyed this role and believe that I have contributed to the Board and the Committee's successful operation during that time.

I would like to put myself forward for the position of Convener as I believe that, as we are entering a very exciting and important period in the Park's history, I bring the right mix of skills and experiences.

In 2015, I was appointed by Scottish Ministers to conduct an independent review of the Planning System in Scotland which will inform a new Planning Act in 2017.

I am CEO of PAS and in the past have been employed by organisations such as CPRE, Scottish Borders Council, Heriot Watt University and COSLA. In 2003, I established a rural tourism business in the Harz Mountains in Germany.

I believe as your Convener I bring:

- **Political understanding** – I have worked closely with Ministers, elected members at national and local level and senior civil servants.
- **Integrity** – I want to ensure that the Board's decisions, even if not universally liked, are respected for their integrity and transparency.
- **Inclusivity** – I want to encourage greater public awareness of the work of the National Park, especially among those who do not readily engage with us. I would promote work to reach out to those who often feel marginalised.
- **Partnership** – I would work hard to grow and sustain the partnerships required for success.
- **Diversity** – as your Convener, I want to work hard for greater diversity reflecting more fully our national demographics.