

## Case study

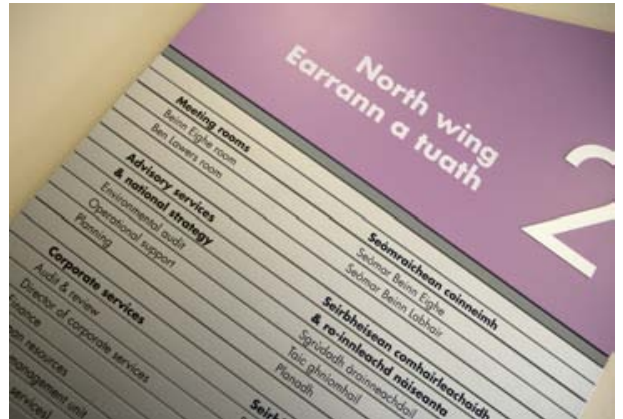
# Scottish Natural Heritage

### What was the brief?

To create a dual-language wayfinding system for Scottish Natural Heritage's Great Glen House HQ.

### What were the issues involved?

The role of Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) is to look after the country's natural heritage, and encourage people to use it sustainably. Its new premises, set on a hillside near Inverness, is built to rigorous green standards, with most of the materials recycled, and natural heating and ventilation. The wayfinding system needed to fit comfortably within this context, and reflect the organisation's values.



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### How was the project approached?

Around 300 staff work in the building, which comprises meeting rooms, boardrooms, a library, staff room, workshops, labs and other technical spaces. 6,000 square metres in area, it contains flexible open-plan office space and has been designed around a main airy atrium space, creating views around and through the building, and reinforcing connections with the setting.

One of the challenges involved was incorporating the Gaelic signage, which runs far longer than English, but a flexible template was devised which was able to accommodate both

languages. The signs themselves were inspired by the strong angular roof of the building, each with a colour-coded triangular peak to signify its location. Rooms were named after notable Scottish nature reserves, and given doorplates featuring commissioned illustrations of indigenous animals, rendered in a flat-colour style reminiscent of 1920s railway posters. The wayfinding system included wall directories for each wing, stair signs, large tactile banners, and directional signs.



**inside**information

wayfinding design for spaces and places

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