

**YOUR
PARK**

Your Park
Transforming our lochshores

Purpose of the Day



- Share the highlights of the consultation outcome
- Discuss key issues informing final proposals
- Discuss potential changes/flexibilities
- Outline camping investment considerations
- Next steps/timeline/Minister dialogue

Running order



1. Overview of events, media & developments since consultation close
2. Overview of the consultation response
3. Headline issues/arguments
 - Discussion
4. Main Areas of Change Suggested by Responses
 - Discussion
5. Overview of Camp Site Development Work
6. Next steps, timescales and Minister meeting

Your Park: a refresher



- 12-week consultation (13th Oct – 12th Jan)
 - Non-statutory
 - Proposals for developing camping facilities
 - Invite interest to propose sites
 - Statutory (National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000)
 - Proposed Byelaws
 - Proposed areas for byelaws



Transforming

our lochshores

Proposed byelaws covered:



Responsible Behaviour

Cause damage to the area, injury or disturbance to wildlife through litter, fires, irresponsible parking



Camping

To regulate when and where you can camp
Based on east Loch Lomond model – with adaptations



Managing Laybys

To manage appropriate use and prevent all-summer encampments

Opportunities for serviced provision



End of consultation communications update

LOCH LOMOND
& THE TROSSACHS
NATIONAL PARK

YOUR
PARK



End of consultation communications update

Residents' support for new bylaw plan

As a resident of Luss who has to endure antisocial behaviour from groups of youths camping near my house each summer, I was delighted with the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park's proposal for controlling camping on west Loch Lomond.

A similar initiative on east Loch Lomond has reduced antisocial behaviour there by 81 percent.

However, I am aware that organisations with only the most tenuous connections to Luss, such as the Back Packers Club and Ramblers Scotland, are orchestrating a campaign against the national park's proposals. Dave Morris, former director of Ramblers Scotland, is quoted as saying: "The park authority needs to abandon its bylaw and sit down with Police Scotland, outdoor organisations and other experts and work out sensible solutions."

Personally, I find the arrogance of this statement breathtaking. It would appear the views of the local community, landowners and others most affected are not worthy of consideration.

Luss and Arden Community

Council, as part of the national park consultation exercise, conducted a written survey of all of the residents in Luss parish. Of 110 written responses, 104 supported the bylaw, two proposed an alternative along the US/Canadian model, two were undecided and two were opposed - ie 95 percent were in favour.

The report contains photographs illustrating what the community of

intimidating for local people, many of whom are elderly. Without a bylaw to prohibit camping, police are only able to act after antisocial behaviour occurs and they are contacted. By the time they are contacted and able to respond, which is generally late on a Friday or Saturday night, the troublemakers are likely to be so intoxicated they cannot be moved for their own safety. They are generally given a warning, leaving

Protect us from camping louts

I am writing in response to the article concerning the proposed camping by-laws for the national park (Observer, January 16).

I was disappointed by the attitude of Kevin Finelater, the Ramblers and the Mountaineering Council of Scotland but I don't imagine they have had to put up with the unthinking campers on their doorsteps, who leave their rubbish and their human waste behind, damage trees and then expect residents who care about their local area to clear it up.

This is not wild camping, which is lightweight, should not cause a nuisance to local people and should be away from buildings, roads,

enclosed fields, etc. Wild campers should leave no trace by taking away all rubbish, removing all signs of their tent pitch and not causing any pollution.

What we are dealing with here are people driving their cars along a road, parking in a convenient spot by a loch, falling out of the vehicle and setting up camp then, when the weekend is over, often getting back in the car and leaving everything behind.

The Scottish Government should have defined wild camping more precisely when they brought in the access legislation and then we would not be in this situation here and elsewhere in Scotland.

The success of the camping by-law on east Loch Lomond has been

overwhelming and other residents in the national park would like to have the same protection from these louts so they can enjoy living and working in the park.

These by-laws only cover a small fraction of the land area of the park so there is plenty of scope for those who wish to have a true wild camping experience to do so.

What impression does all this unsightly rubbish and behaviour give to visitors?

It certainly would deter me from wanting to visit the park for a second time.

I sincerely hope the park brings in these new by-laws and then ensures they are obeyed.

Strathard resident



Overwhelming support for camping ban

arrogance of this statement breathtaking.

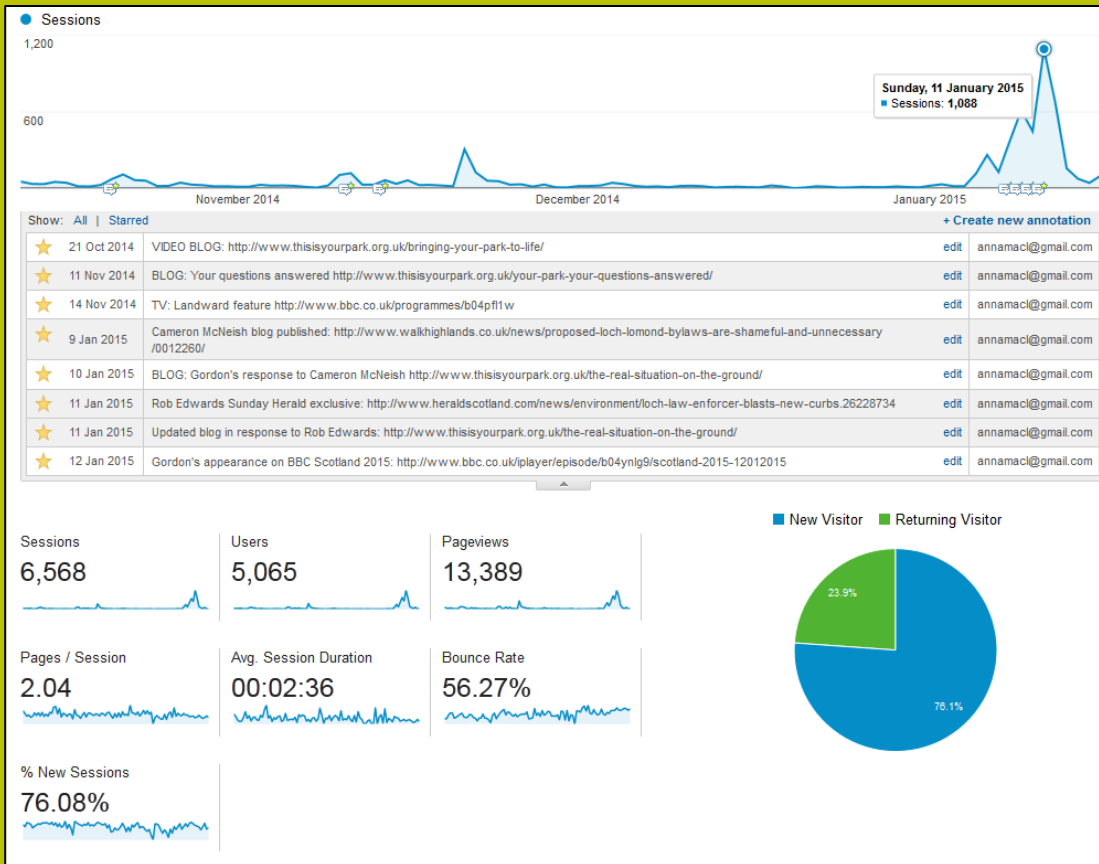
"It would appear that the views of the local community, landowners and others most affected are not even worthy of consideration."

Meanwhile, Luss Estates has also thrown its support behind the proposed extension of the camping by-laws which was first introduced to east Loch Lomond in June 2011.

Chief executive Simon Miller said the community council's denunciation of parties posed.

He added: "Groups opposing national park's proposals are

End of consultation communications update



Over the 12-week consultation period the Your Park website had:

- More than **6000 visits**
- From almost **5000 people**
- Viewing more than **13,000 pages**
- Spending nearly **220 hours** (that's over **9 days!**) using the website

Recent Meetings with key stakeholders



Ministerial meeting

- **First briefing 5th Feb**
- **Need to keep updated on timing**
- **Further meeting 19th March**
- **Very keen to visit the Park soon**

Procurator Fiscal

- **Very supportive**
- **Technical advice on wording**
- **Explore restorative justice options**
- **Keep all PFs informed**

Police Scotland

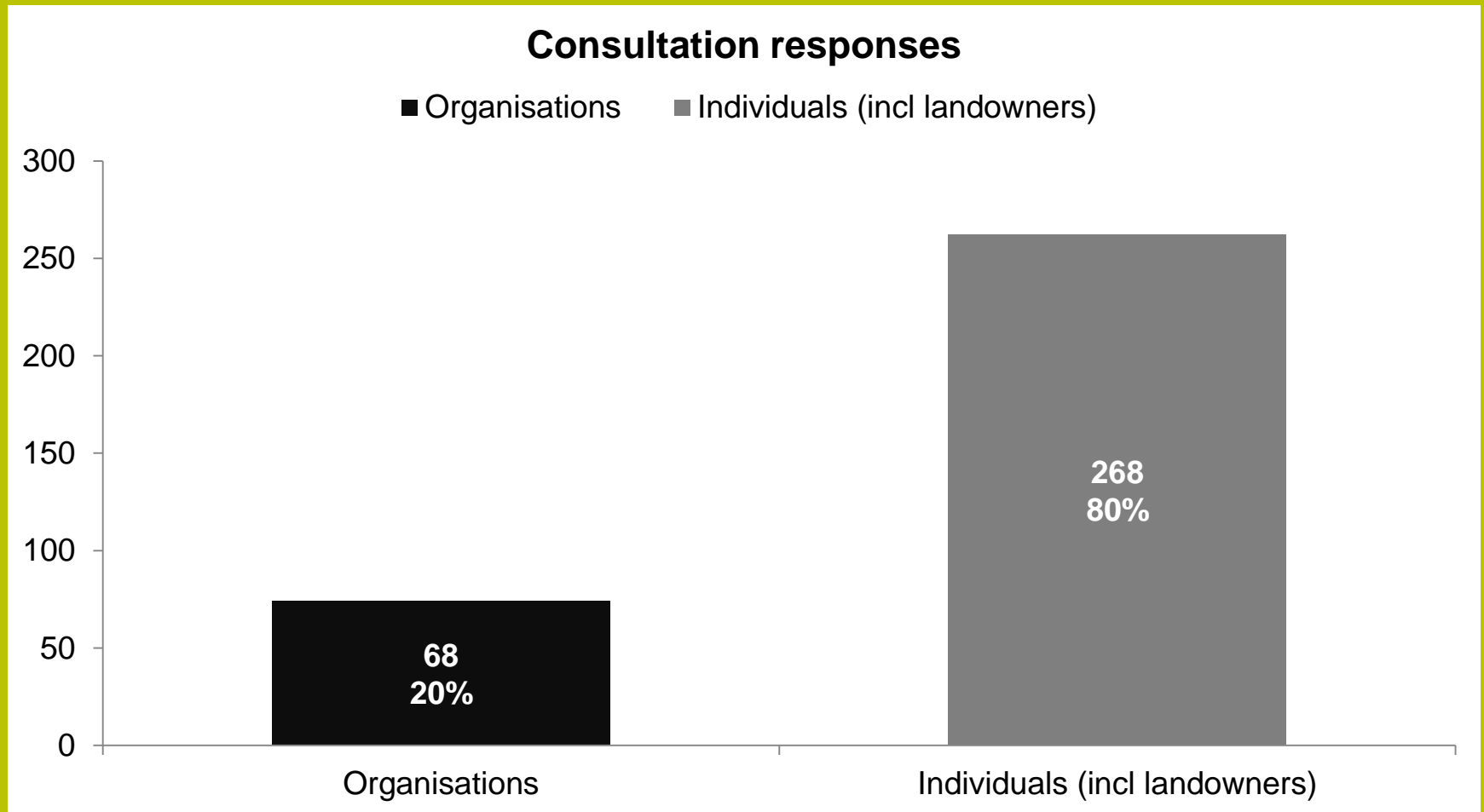
- **Use of police stats**
- **FOI approaches**
- **Meeting to discuss any amendments**
- **Continued police support via Operation Ironworks and National Park Police Officer**

Consultation response update

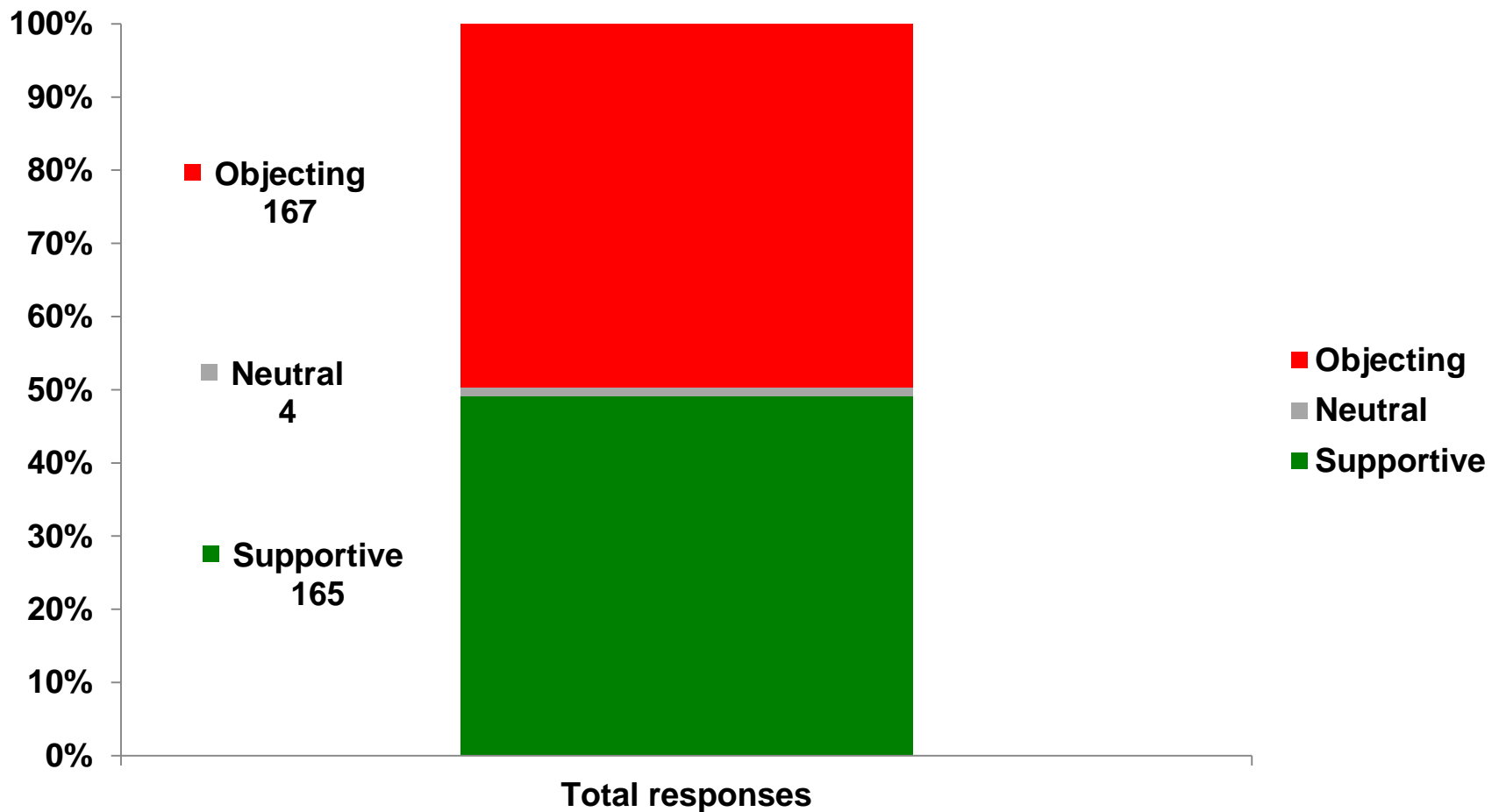
Consultation on camping byelaws

Headlines

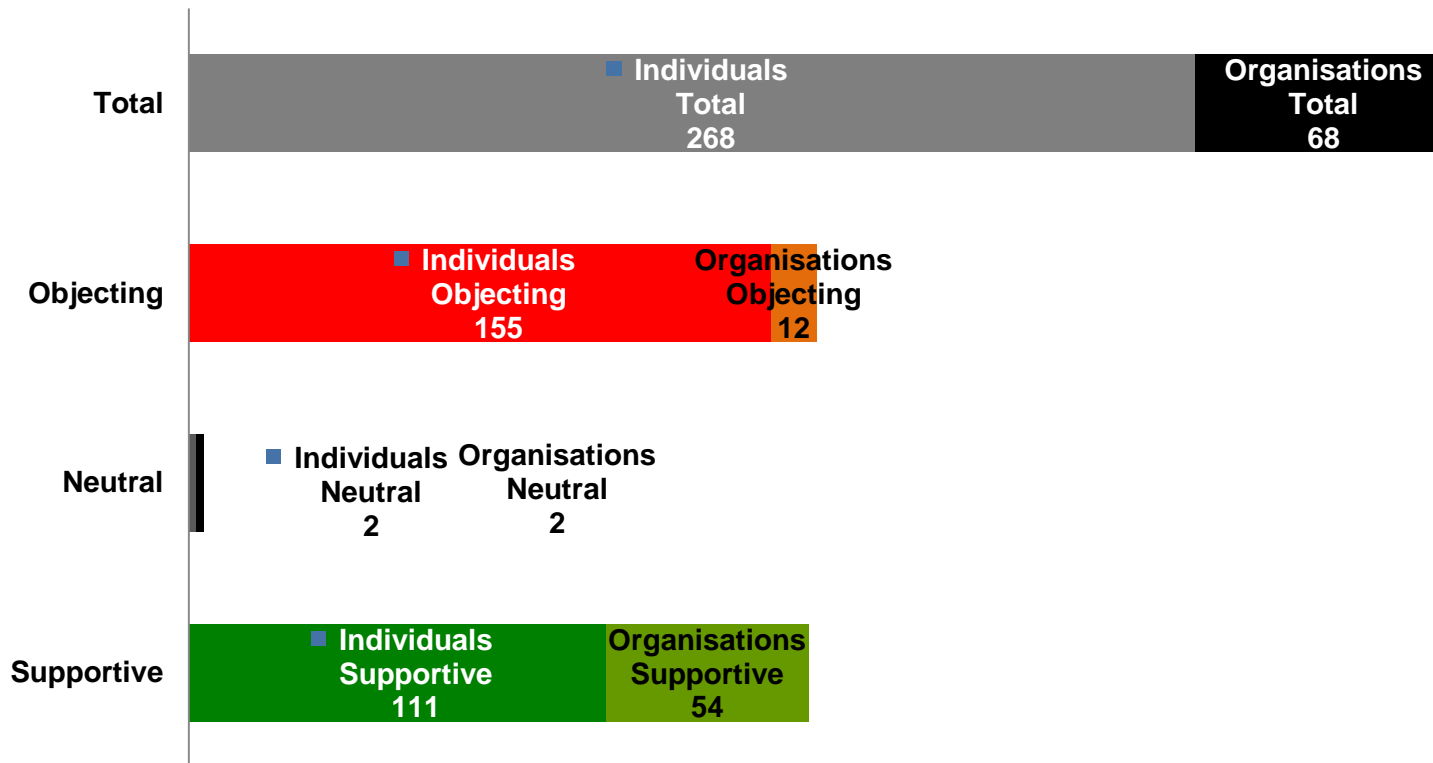
We received a total of 336 consultation responses: 68 from organisations, 268 from individuals



At a top level, objections and supportive responses are almost level with around 49% each

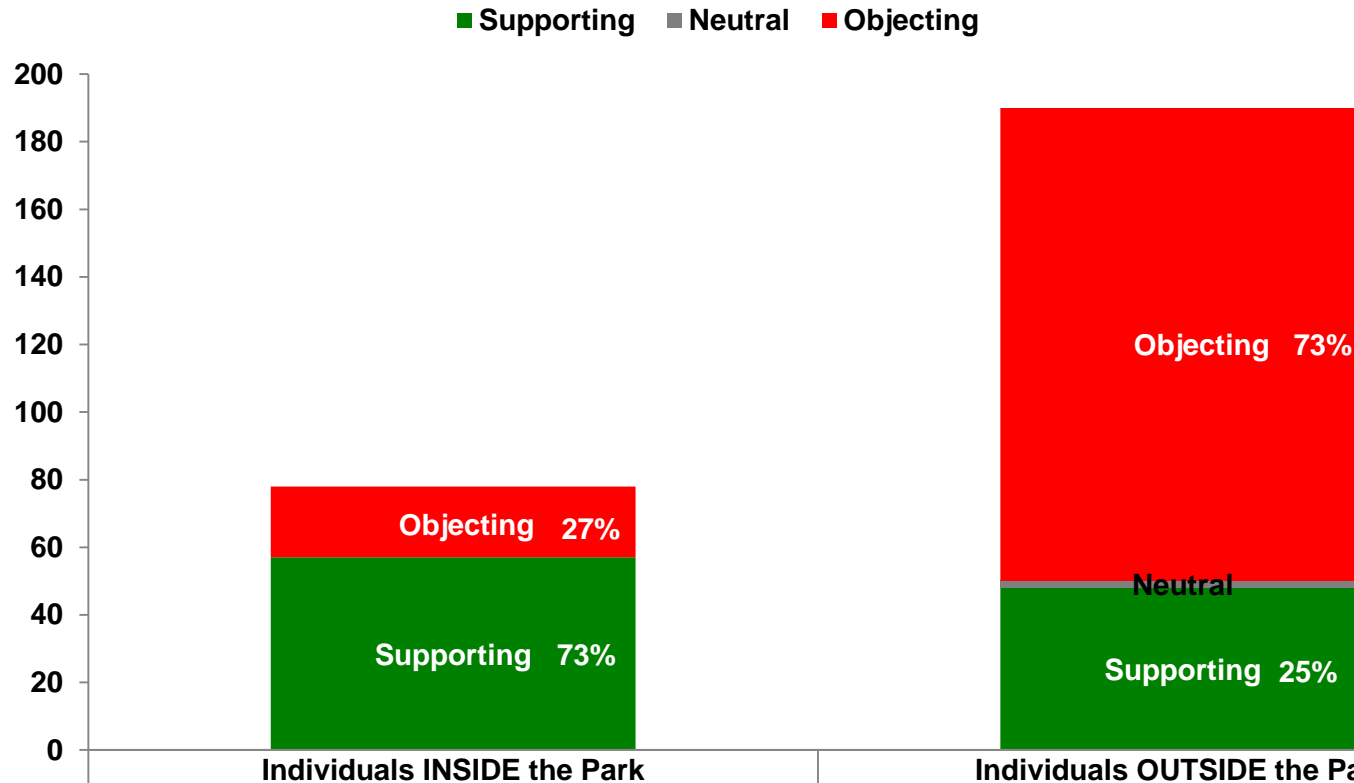


We were pleased with the level of support from both individuals and organisations. The majority of objections came from individuals.



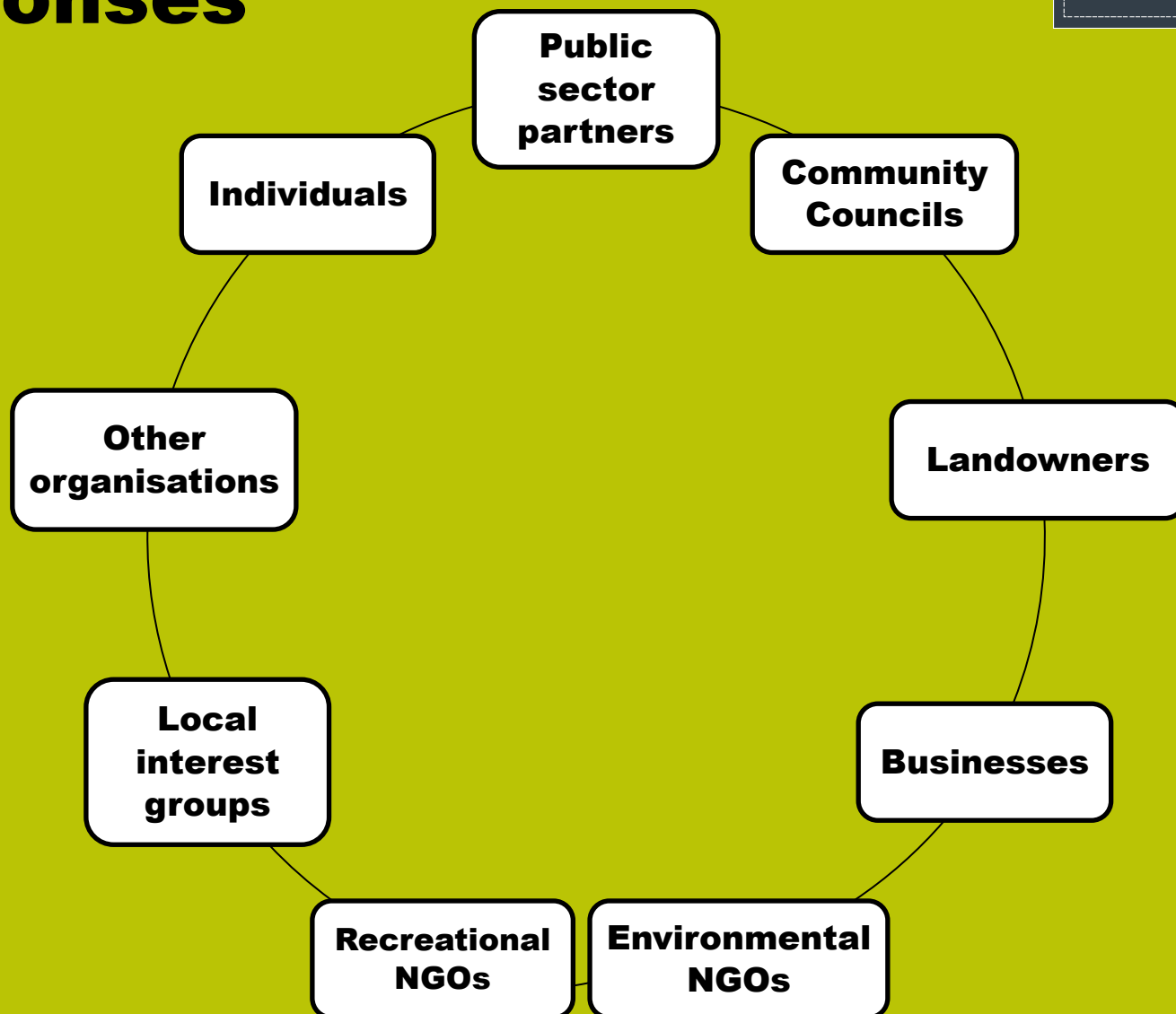
	Supportive	Neutral	Objecting	Total
Individuals	111	2	155	268
Organisations	54	2	12	68

**The majority of respondents who live within the Park are supportive of the proposals.
The majority of objections from individuals came from people living outside the Park.**



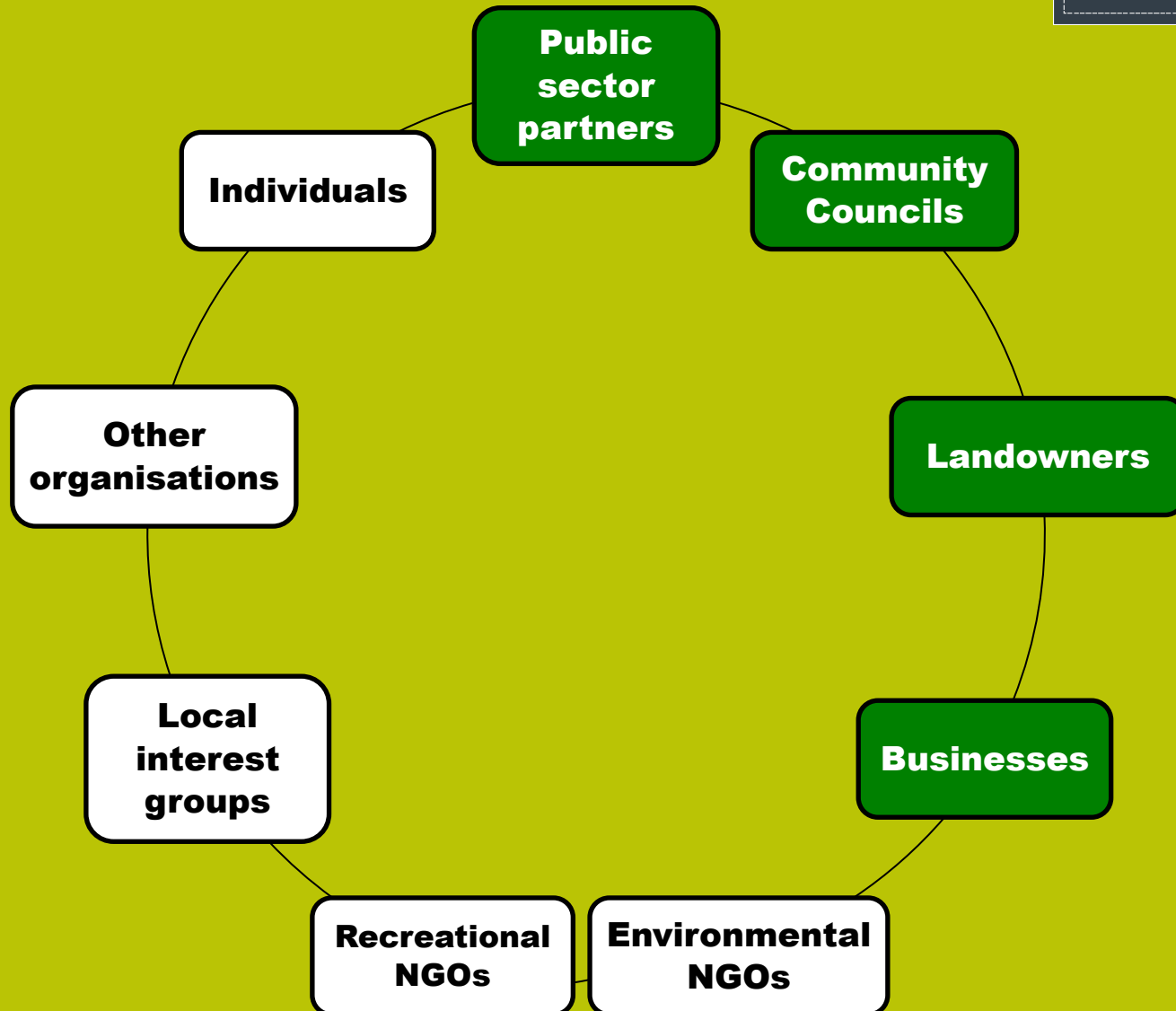
	Individuals INSIDE the Park	Individuals OUTSIDE the Park
■ Objecting	21	140
■ Neutral	0	2
■ Supporting	57	48

Breaking down the responses

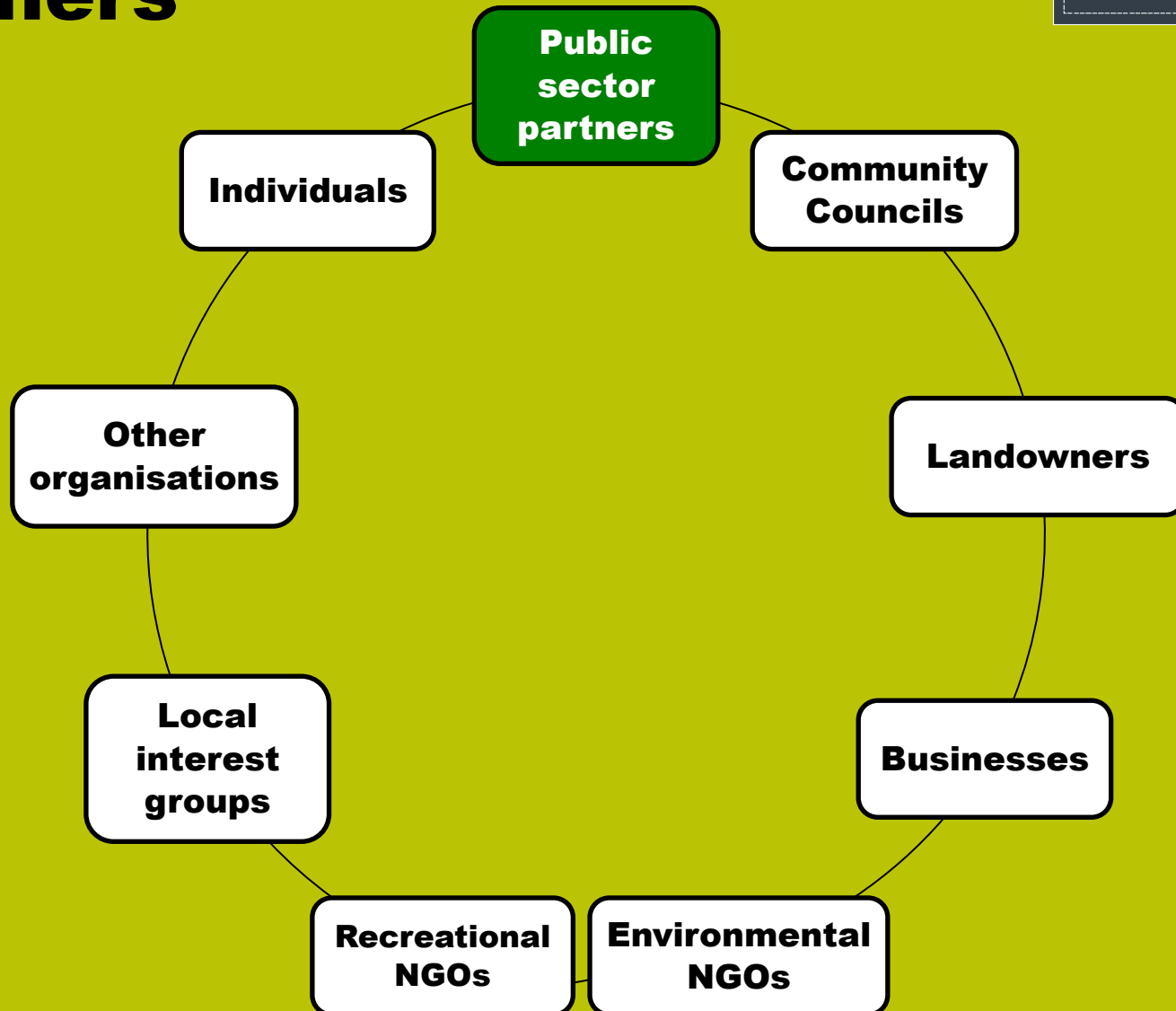


Key supportive responses

Key supportive responses



Key supportive responses: Partners



Key public sector partner responses



SNH

- **In favour**
- **Camping provision and plan essential**
- **Review nuisance and damage byelaw wording**
- **Minor zone reductions and amendments**
- **Management Plan for Loch Lomond islands**
- **Keen to support further work**

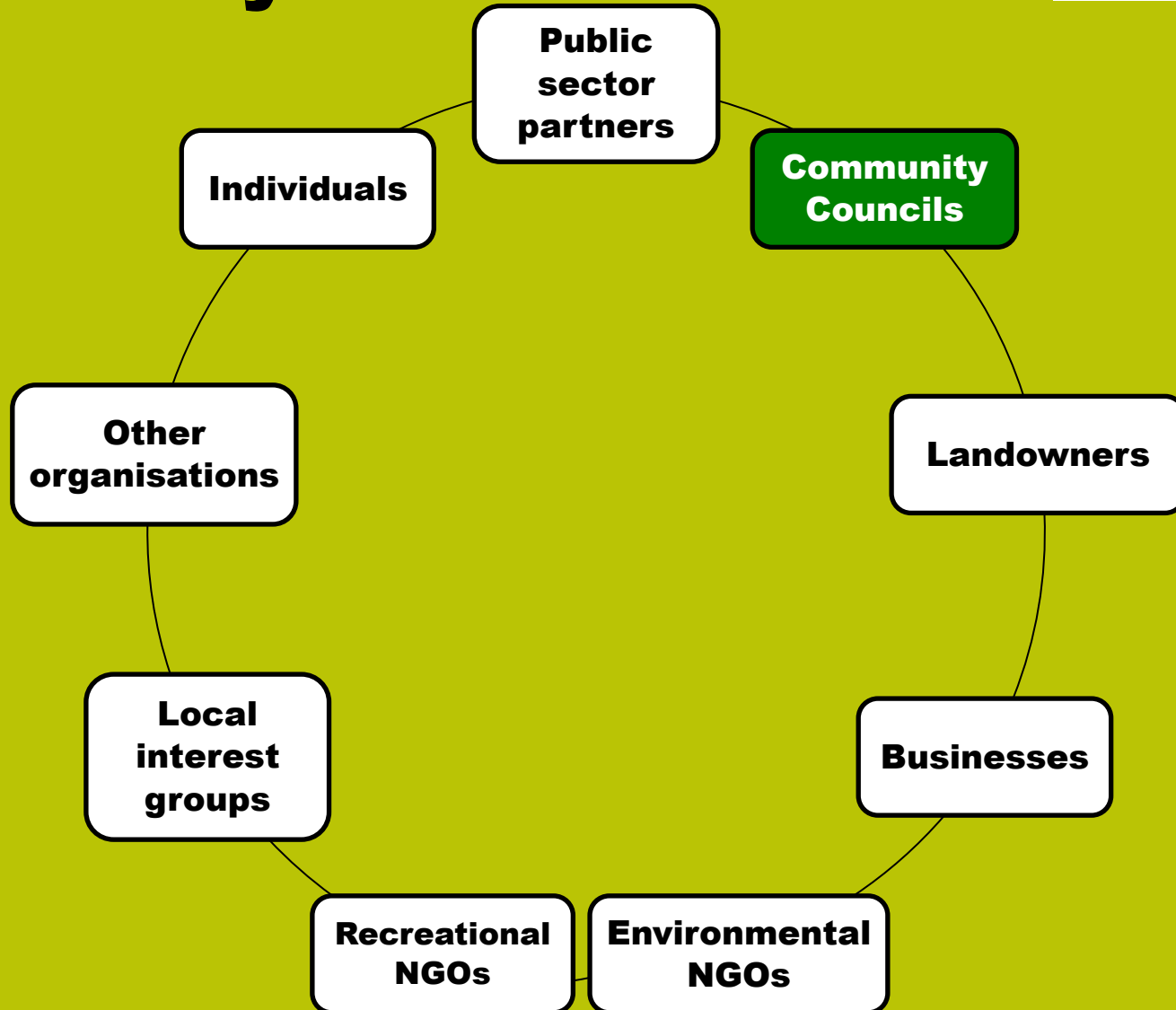
Forestry Commission

- **Supportive**
- **Camping provision essential**
- **Additions to zones**
- **Prepare management plan for areas outside zones eg Argyll**
- **No resources to help with management**

Police Scotland

- **Generally supportive**
- **Review nuisance, damage and litter byelaw wording**
- **Query over Forest Drive zone**
- **Police will continue to utilise current laws and support collaborative approaches e.g. Ironworks**

Key supportive responses: Community Councils



Key supportive responses: Community Councils



- 14 Community Councils responded
 - Including 3 from outside Park (Perth & Kinross)
- All supportive

“there was overwhelming support from local residents that a byelaw restricting camping to the west side of Loch Lomond should be introduced and designated camp sites created.”

Luss & Arden Community Council

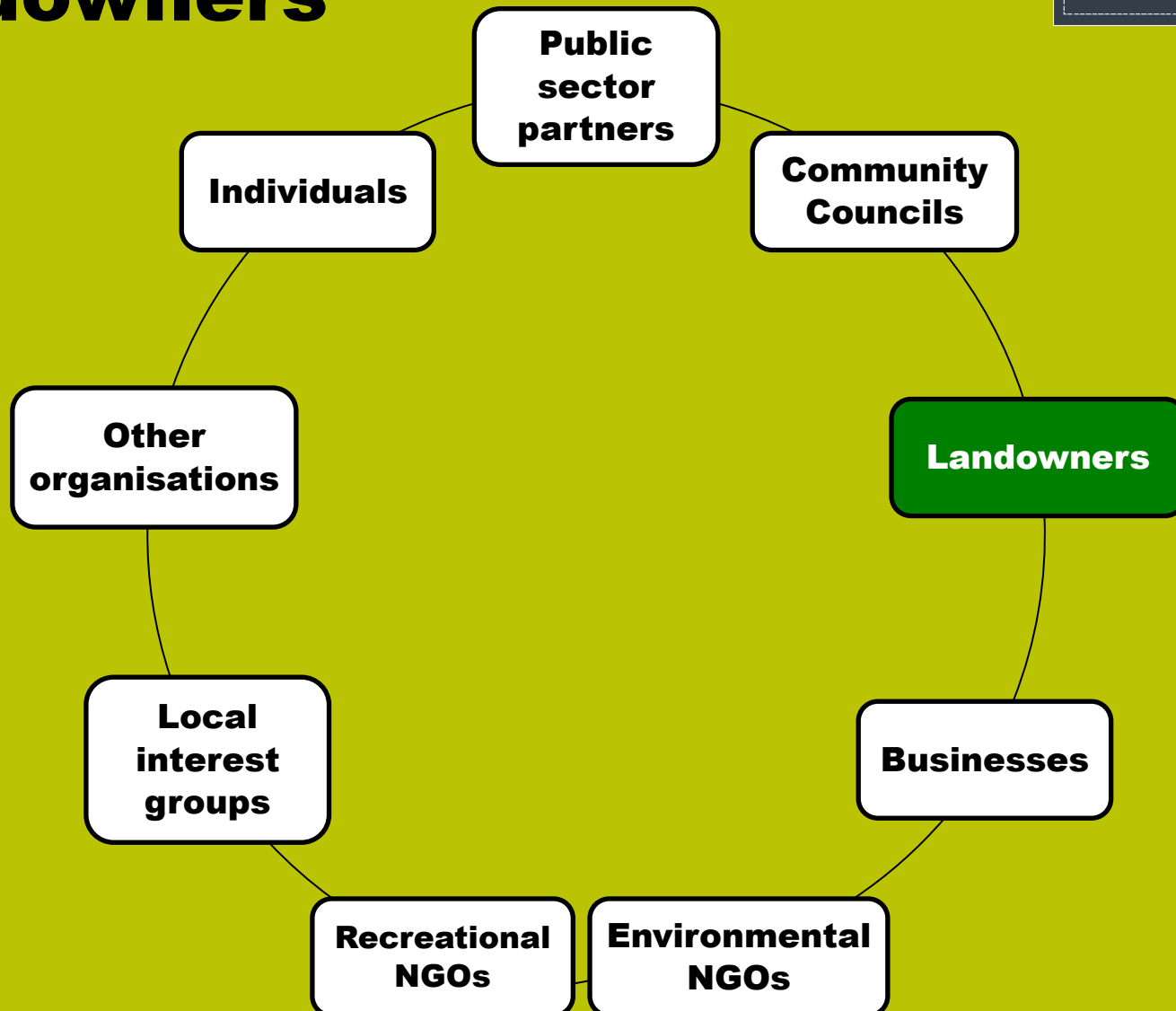
“The Park is for everyone and no-go areas should be a thing of the past. The byelaws will also help the Police and rangers go about their duties”

**Balquhidder, Lochearnhead,
Strathyre Community Council**

“we wish you all the best in your endeavours to maximise public enjoyment of the Park and will monitor more precisely anti-social activity on Loch Eck that might inform future proposals...”

Strachur Community Council

Key supportive responses: Landowners



Key supportive responses: Landowners



- 6 responses
(4 large estates)
 - Luss
 - Drummond
 - Glenfalloch
 - Ardvorlich

“we support the byelaws....and are interested in developing new camping and caravanning facilities...We urge that the loch Lomond Islands are included.”

Luss Estates Company

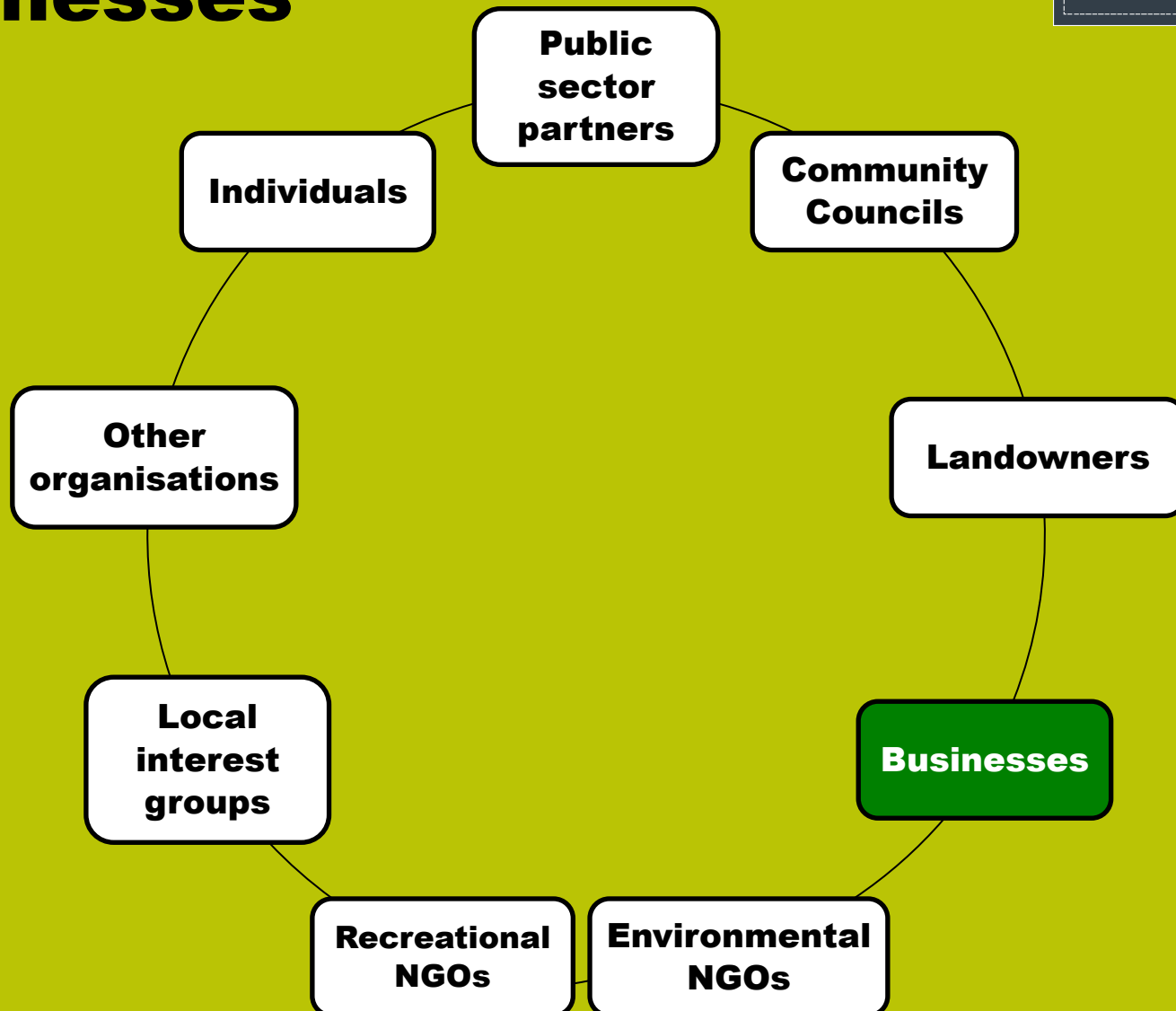
“we strongly support anything in the byelaws which mitigates against anti-social camping, but could reduce the fishing to a level at which it would not be viable for Loch Earn ”

Ardvorlich Estate

“Adequate formal facilities must be in place...Drummond Estates is interested in being involved in the development of new camping facilities on Loch Earn”

Drummond Estates

Key supportive responses: Businesses



Key supportive responses: Businesses



- 15 responses
- 14 supporting
- Individual Businesses and Destination Group members

“byelaws need to be introduced. So called “wild camping” is a disgrace to the park which astounds visitors (especially from overseas) and discourages them from staying longer in the area.”

Trossachs Treks

“We believe the introduction of camping byelaws over a much wider area should greatly improve the quality of visitor experience”

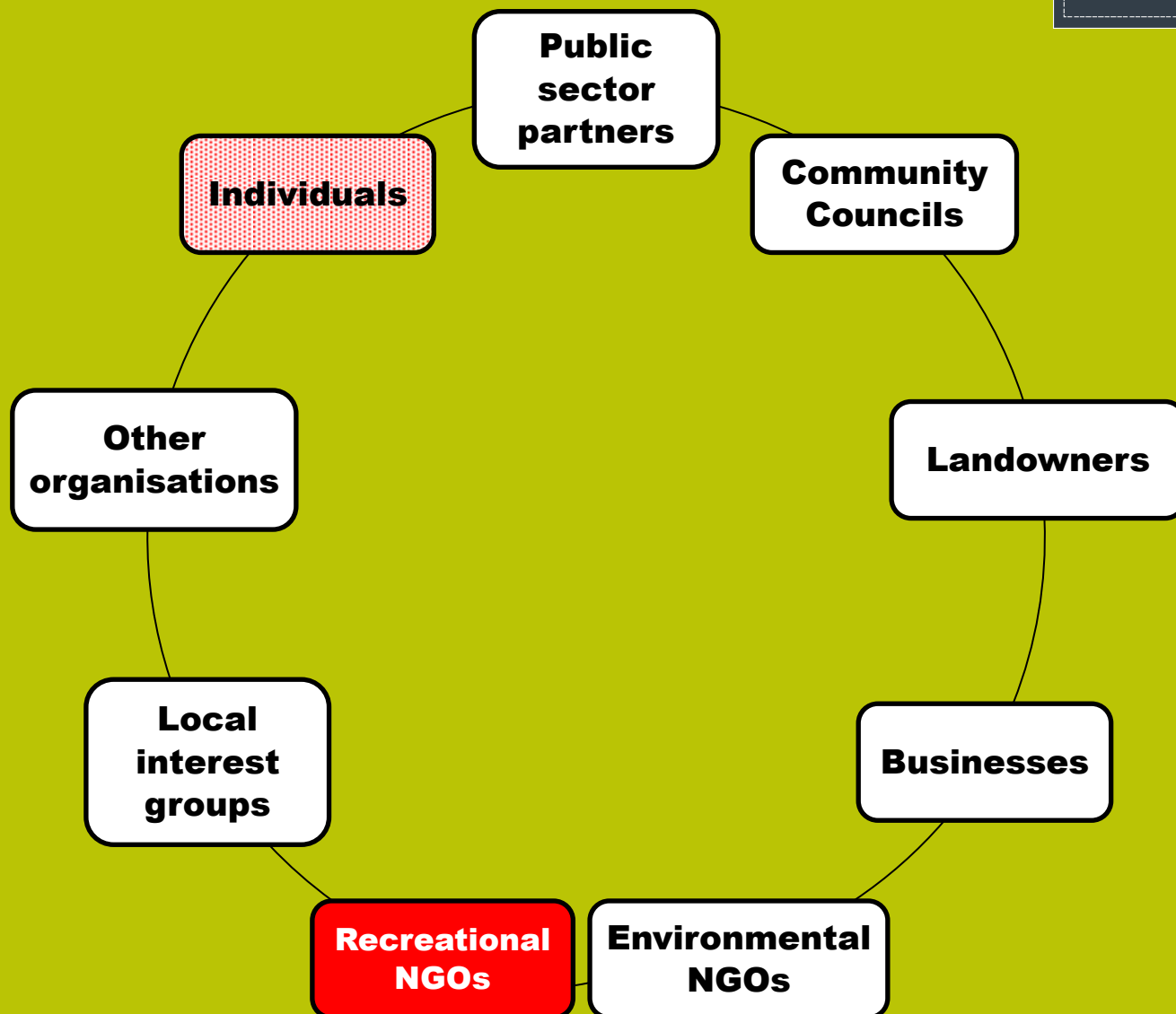
National Park Destination Group

“We welcome the opportunity to work closer with the National Park to promote, raise awareness and develop Your Park.”

Love Loch Lomond

Key opposition responses

Key opposition responses



Key opposition responses

Ramblers Mountaineers Paddlers

- **Oppose in principle**
- Question evidence
- Impacts on the *“responsible majority’s”* hard won access rights
- Criminalisation of responsible wild campers

Individual Objectors

- **Oppose in principle**
- More Police
- Use existing laws
- More education
- More campsites
- Penalises the responsible campers

Key objecting responses:



- 1 Public Agency
- 5 Recreation NGOs
- 2 Conservation NGOs
- 1 Local Org
- 1 Business

“While, Sportscotland recognises the validity of byelaws as a tool, we consider the introduction of byelaws to be premature”

Sportscotland

“An unnecessary and draconian power that will criminalise law abiding members of the public as a result of the mismanagement of honey-pot locations by LLTNPA”

Mountaineering Council for Scotland

“byelaws are unnecessary, conflict with enforcement of criminal law, unfairly expose responsible citizens to risk of criminalisation, and are a serious threat to statutory access rights throughout Scotland”

Ramblers Scotland

Key opposition arguments



**1. Additional
Policing is the
solution**

**2. More education
is the solution**

**3. Alcohol byelaw
is the solution**

**4. Build campsite
infrastructure first**

**5. Validity of
East Loch Lomond
data questioned**

**6. Will cause
displacement
elsewhere**

**This is a fundamental infringement of
access rights given under the Land Reform Act**

Key opposition arguments



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**6. Will cause
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**This is a unacceptable infringement of
access rights given under the Land Reform Act**

Key opposition arguments: Our response



1. Additional Policing is the solution

- Since 2007, we have **spent in excess of £400,000** on additional policing at peak times
- Using existing legislation, an arrest can only be made **once the crime is committed** (hence damage done).
- Requires **Police to enforce, witnesses then court time** to prosecute.
- **Significant additional resource** would be required to ensure the heavy Police presence some are asking for. This is both undesirable and not feasible.

2. More education is the solution

- We have **spent 12 years educating people** about how to behave responsibly, both via our education team and our Ranger service
 - We will **continue to do so** as a cornerstone to our Your Park plans
- **Education alone is not making enough of an impact** in these problem areas.
- In some areas, **damage is being done by the sheer number of people visiting (over-capacity)**, not just by those behaving irresponsibly

3. Alcohol byelaw is the solution

- **Luss and the surrounding area has an alcohol byelaw in place yet the area continues to suffer** from problems of over-use and antisocial behaviour.
- We are using the powers available to us to **manage both the amount of camping that takes place (which an alcohol byelaw would not resolve)** and the damage done to the environment and people's experience of living in or visiting the Park.

Key opposition arguments: Our response



4. Build campsite infrastructure first

- **Not economically viable** without having a way of managing camping levels elsewhere
- **Doesn't deal with the damage** being done to the environment

5. Validity of East Loch Lomond data questioned

- Data used **comes directly from Police Scotland reports**
- Their response to Your Park consultation confirms that **Police Scotland are “generally supportive”** of our proposals

6. Will cause displacement elsewhere

- Displacement **taken into account** in our proposals
- **No evidence to suggest that ELL has created problems** where there were none before
- This is **not a reason to do nothing.**
- Our **proposals also include investing in additional camping facilities**

Response to arguments on Infringement of access rights



- Land Reform Act specifically legislates for use of byelaws to manage difficult situations.
- National Parks Act provides us specific byelaw making powers to manage recreation and environmental issues.
- Proposals only impact on the right to responsibly wild camp not other forms of access (walk, cycle, ride or paddle).
- Promotes access by reducing camping pressures/impacts

Land Reform Bill summary



“Scotland's land must be an asset that benefits the many, not the few”



**The Scottish
Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Land Reform Bill



- Community involvement and empowerment
- Better use of public land for public good (FCS/TS)
- Engaging private land owners to release land to support sustainable development/recreation use
- Promoting wider access and recreation activity
- Utilises Byelaw-making powers for the purposes envisaged

Our narrative to Scottish Government



- Positive solution to a well evidenced problem
- Key to supporting continued tourism growth
- Providing more accessible, safe and affordable outdoor camping experiences – focus for outreach
- Working with communities and landowners to implement and operate solutions – benefit the many
- Engaging with the business community to grow new opportunities and ventures – build confidence
- Preventative spend rather than expensive enforcement

Discussion and Questions

Suggested changes for consideration following consultation

Suggested changes for consideration



1. Byelaw zones

- Additions
- Reductions
- Link roads – in or out

2. Wording

- extent of issues covered

3. Season

- 8 months or less?

1. Byelaw Zones

Byelaw zones



Significant changes suggested:

- Remove linking corridors/settlements
- Reconsider Dukes pass/ 3 Lochs Forest Drive

Area extensions suggested:

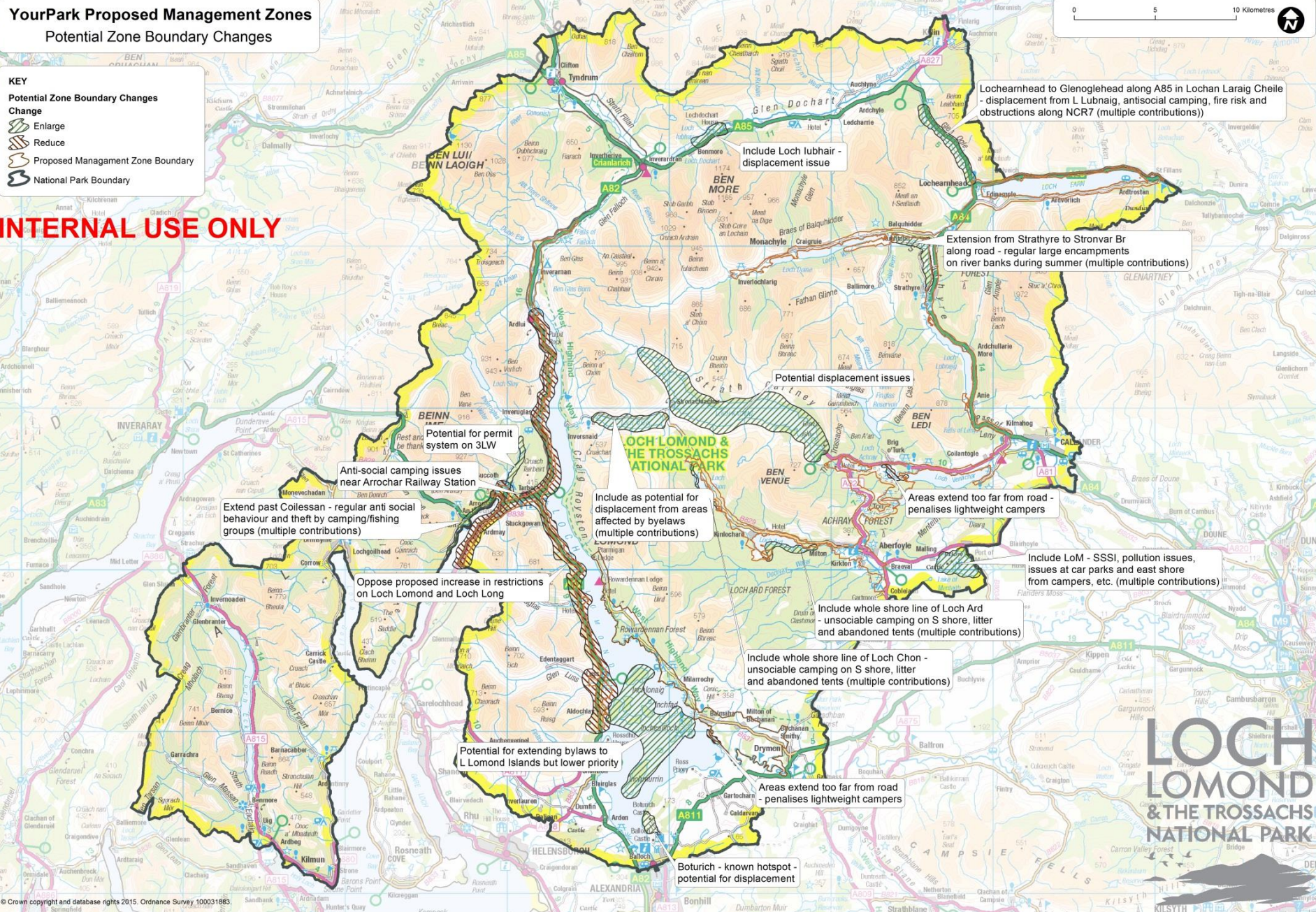
- Loch Lomond islands
- Coilessan/Ardgarten
- Loch Arklet/Inversnaid
- Duck Bay

YourPark Proposed Management Zones

Potential Zone Boundary Changes

- KEY**
- Potential Zone Boundary Changes
 - Change
 - Enlarge
 - Reduce
 - Proposed Management Zone Boundary
 - National Park Boundary

INTERNAL USE ONLY



MAP 1: OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ZONES



2. Byelaw wording

Byelaw wording



Byelaw 8

- **Nuisance within a management zone**
- **Consider removal or more specific wording**
- **Consider Police and Ranger roles**

Byelaw 9

- **Damage within management zone**
- **Consider removal or more specific wording**
- **Consider Police and Ranger roles**

Byelaw 10

- **Litter and waste**
- **Consider removal and promote use of litter FPN powers**
- **Consider Ranger roles FPN/byelaw enforcement**

3. Season

Byelaw season



	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Season profile								

Discussion and Questions

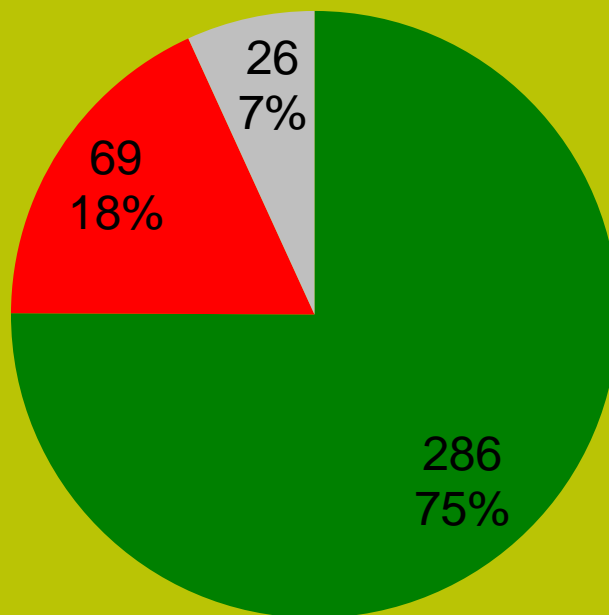
Camping Development workstream update

Consultation on investment in camping provision

Consultation on investment in camping provision



Do you agree that that over the next five years the National Park Authority should invest in improving the camping provision within the management zones?

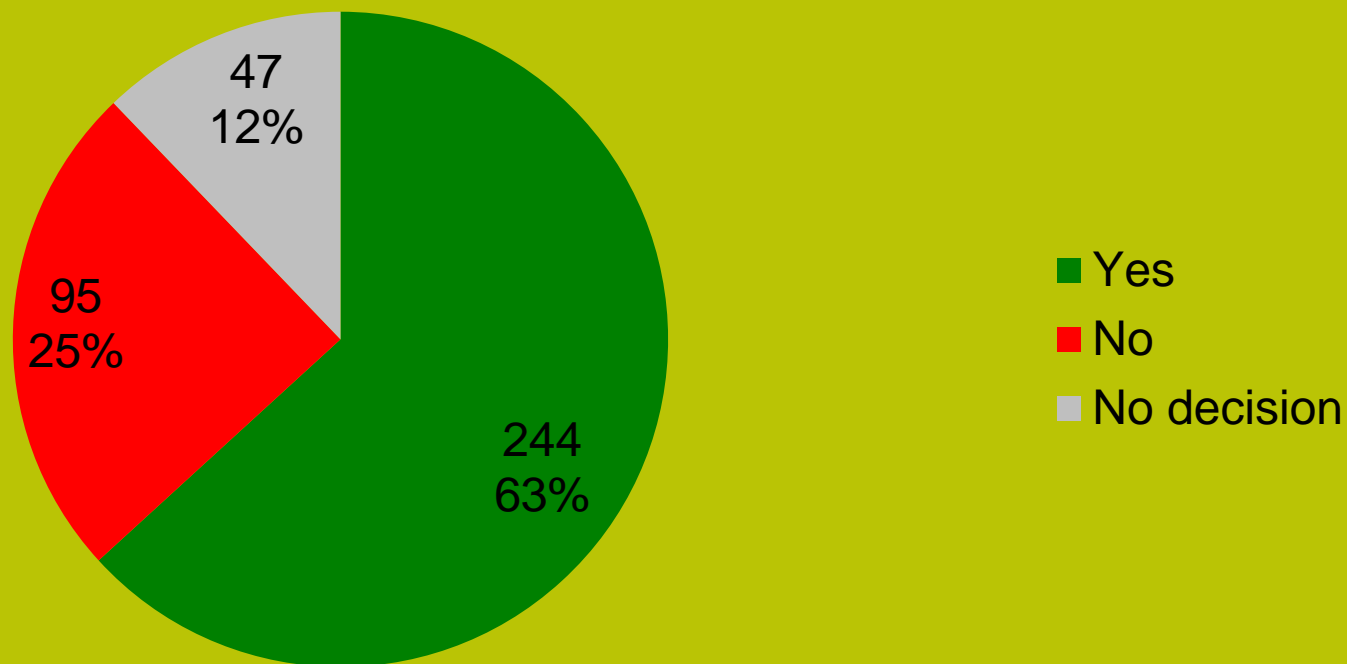


- Yes
- No
- No decision

Consultation on investment in camping provision



Do you agree with the areas of opportunity for additional camping provision as proposed?

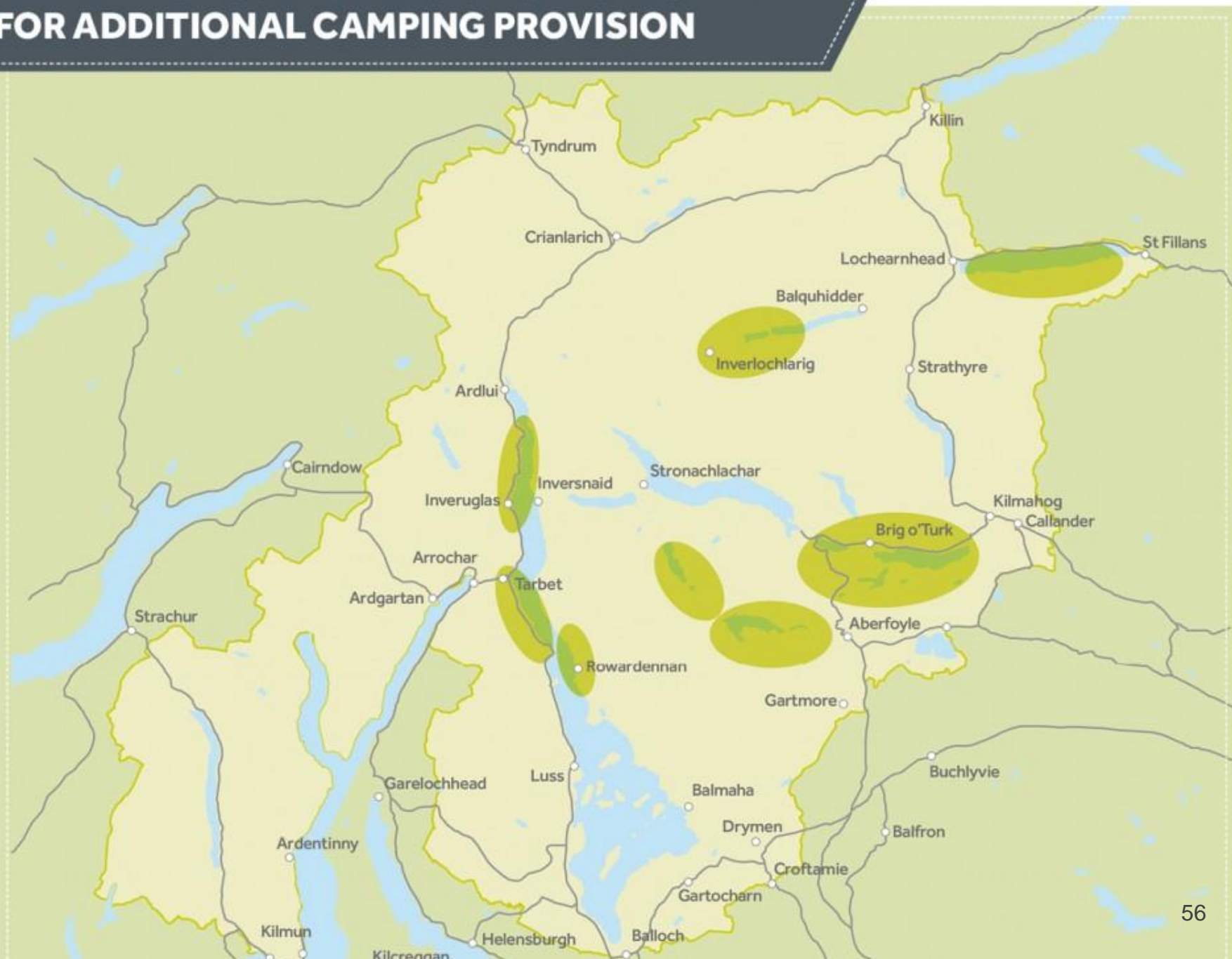


Camping Development Group Work



- Semi-formal camping provision within the Park at key sites where management is challenging
- Identify commercially viable sites
- Design and consider models and management structures for serviced sites
- Permit scheme development-identification of exempted areas within zones

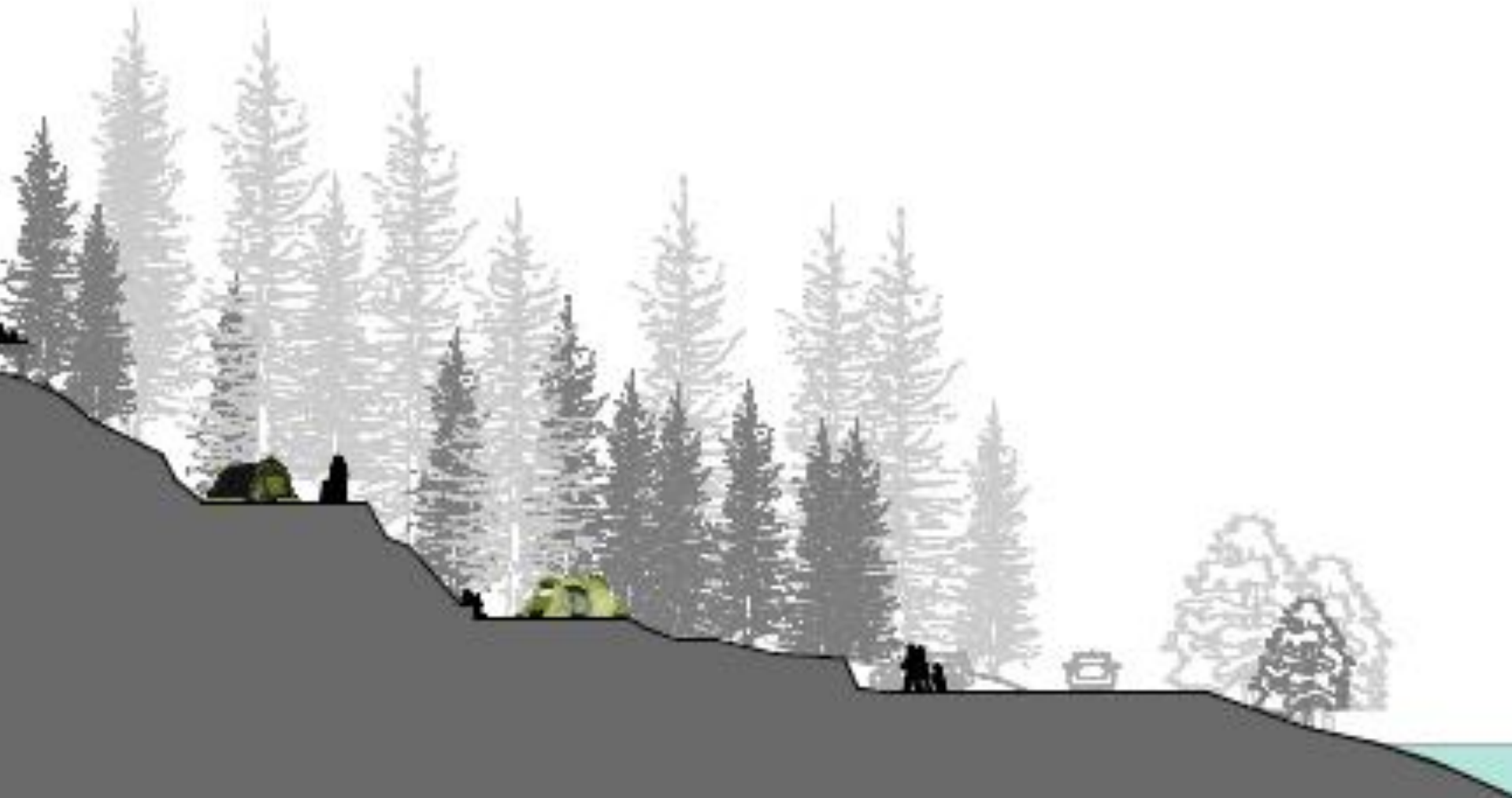
MAP 4: PROPOSED AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL CAMPING PROVISION



Camping Development overview



Camping Development overview







CAMPING AREA - 20-40 PITCHES

Camping investment options



Low cost £100k

£1M Full commercial site

**By permit
camping**

**Basic
Seasonal
facilities**

**Campervan
Provision**

**Existing
Parking
Sites**

**Mainly
camping**

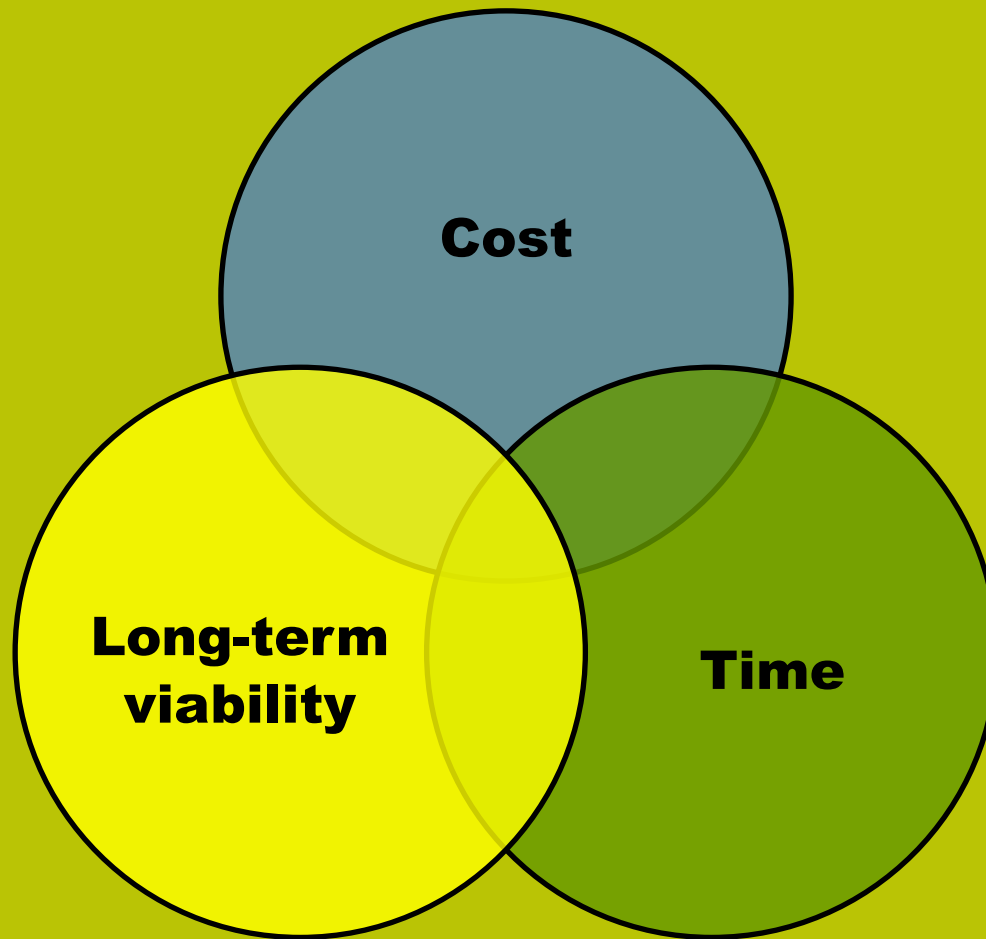
**Circa 30
Pitches**

**Parking
Compost
Toilets
Water**

**Fully
Serviced
50 plus
pitches
Mixed
provision**

**Run
together
with
another
activity**

Short and long-term considerations



Questions?

Conclusion & next steps

Conclusions & next steps



- 16th March Update/Initial Recommendations
- 19th March – Minister Meeting (Timescales)
- March/April – Partner Meetings Final Proposals
- 27th April – Potential Special Board Meeting
- May – Submission to Minister

Next steps



- Site Prioritisation
- Landowner Meetings
- Refinement of Capital Programme
- Camping Development Plan – Public
- Assessment of Permit Feasibility
- Byelaw Resource Planning

Questions?