



FOI Ref: 2015/013

20th April 2015

REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, received by email on 20th March 2015. Your specific requests and the relevant information held by the National Park Authority are provided below.

1. Who took the decision to start drafting bye-laws, on what authority and on what date?

Following consideration of a paper, submitted to the Park Authority Board meeting of 9th December 2013, Ref Visitor Management NPA/05/2015/04, which can be found at:

<http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/looking-after/npa-board-meeting-09/12/2013/menu-id-507.html>

the Board authorised officers to progress work on considering a range of solutions, including regulatory options, to address problems identified in pressured areas of the National Park.

Based on the authority granted by the Park Board in December 2013, the Project Board agreed to commence work to draft potential bye-laws, as the main regulatory option available to the Park Authority to consider, on the 7th July 2014.

2. Did any member of the Park Board know of this decision by 26th August? If so, please provide all written information relating to this, including which members of the Board were involved.

All Board Members would have known of this decision by 26th August 2014. Board Members agree the overall direction of the National Park Authority, and approved the progression of options, including regulatory options at the Board meeting in December 2013.

Reports submitted to Board meetings are published in advance on our website. Additional communications between senior staff and Board members takes place on a regular basis. These communications ensure that Board members are kept updated on an ongoing basis of the full range of operational matters being undertaken by staff.

Internal communications between Board Members and Park Authority staff are considered exempt from release under S30(b)(i)(ii)(c) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

It is important to ensure that there is a free and frank exchange of views between senior staff and Board members on an ongoing basis. While it is recognised that there has been considerable public interest in the Your Park project, it is considered that the release of internal discussions between Board members and Park Authority staff about the Your Park project would inhibit

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

National Park Headquarters, Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG Long: 4°34'24"W Lat: 56°00'12"N
t: 01389 722600 f: 01389 722633 e: info@lochlomond-trossachs.org w: lochlomond-trossachs.org

Printed on paper sourced from certified sustainable forests

Page 1 of 3

effective communication regarding this and other projects in future and put at risk the important relationship between the Park Authority Board and staff.

3. In relation to the paper on the Your Park consultation discussed at the Board meeting on 6th October, which members of the Board had been consulted on this prior to the paper being made public (i.e. date the finalised papers were sent to Board members and put on your website)? What was their involvement?

As advised above, the Park Authority Board have a key role in agreeing the overall direction of the National Park Authority and are aware of ongoing operational matters including the Your Park project. All Board members would have known about this project in advance of the Board meeting on 6th October 2014 having authorised the work at the 9th December 2013 Board meeting.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer

info@lochlomond-trossachs.org

Review Procedure

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, or the way in which the Authority has dealt with your request, you are entitled to require the Authority to review its decision. Please note that in order for a review to take place you are required to:

- Send your request for review in writing, setting out in full the reasons why you are requesting a review.
- Submit your review request within 40 working days of either the date on which you received a response from the Authority or the date by which you should have received a response under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, whichever is the later.
- address your review request to the Director of Corporate Services:

Jaki Carnegie
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
National Park Headquarters
Carrochan
Carrochan Road
Balloch
G83 8EG
E-mail: info@lochlomond-trossachs.org

The review will be handled by staff who were not involved in the original decision. You will receive notice of the result of your review within 20 working days.

If you are not satisfied with the response to your request for review, you can contact the Scottish Information Commissioner, the independent body which oversees the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

National Park Headquarters, Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG Long: 4°34'24"W Lat: 56°00'12"N
t: 01389 722600 f: 01389 722633 e: info@lochlomond-trossachs.org w: lochlomond-trossachs.org

Printed on paper sourced from certified sustainable forests

Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS
Tel: 01334 464610
Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info
E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

National Park Headquarters, Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG Long: 4°34'24"W Lat: 56°00'12"N
t: 01389 722600 f: 01389 722633 e: info@lochlomond-trossachs.org w: lochlomond-trossachs.org

Printed on paper sourced from certified sustainable forests