

FOI Ref: 2015/020

27th May 2015

REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

Thank you for your seventh request for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, received by email on 27th April 2015. Your specific requests and the relevant information held by the National Park Authority are provided below.

"In your response to Colin Bayes today about the carrying capacity of responsible campers within the proposed management zones, you stated that 300 places reflect your assessment of what a sustainable amount of camping could take place without raising environmental issues. I would be grateful if you could provide me with a copy of the assessment or methodology you used to reach this conclusion."

A full methodology for the development of sustainable camping provision within the camping management zones will be developed as part of the camping development plan, as stated in documentation recently submitted to the Scottish Ministers for consideration. This documentation is available on the Your Park website downloads section at: http://www.thisisyourpark.org.uk/downloads/

Initial site based assessments have been made to help inform the Your Park proposals. These have used factors such as those included in Appendix 1 of the documentation, to inform the initial screening for potential sites.

A similar process has been used for an initial identification of areas for permit based camping. Appendix 2 shows some of the locations considered and potential allocations for sites or permits based on physical assessments made on site. Please note that this is a work in progress and is not a definitive or final list.

The figure of 300 camping places is a target for the first year of operation of the byelaws. It is anticipated that the camping development plan will identify additional campsite opportunities. Within the areas where camping permits will operate, the environment will be surveyed at the end of the season to ascertain whether permit numbers can be reviewed.

In your response you only referred to 300 places with no reference to the proposal for 220 permits and I assume the 300 therefore was a response to the number of fixed pitches. Could you supply me with the methodology used to reach 220 for permits and how these will be allocated across the proposed management zones.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Development of the Your Park Recommendations, as approved by the Board on 27th May 2015 is on-going. This means that final decisions still have to be taken in relation to the final allocation of camping permits, as part of a camping development plan. Therefore we do not hold recorded information to answer your question about the allocation of permits.

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 Doubledykes Road St Andrews Fife KY16 9DS

Tel: 01334 464610

Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

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