



EIR Ref: 2015/005:

10th August 2015

Thank you for your request for information, below, received by email on 28th July 2015 under the Environmental (Scotland) Regulations 2004. Your specific request and the response from the National Park Authority are provided below. Please note that most of your questions do not fall within the remit of the Park Authority, and some are constitutional matters. Our response can therefore only cover our general understanding of the issues you have asked about.

1) The gold that is found and removed. Where does it go and who profits?

Any gold found will go to the gold mine company, its shareholders, the landowner, the Crown Estate, and the Treasury. Local businesses, other businesses such as construction firms, suppliers of plant and vehicles, engineering consultants, employees, etc. would all profit in some way. Our understanding is that the gold, (mostly in the form of condensed chemical foam with tiny particles of gold bound up in it) would be taken abroad for processing to extract and purify the gold.

2) Will the area and Scotland actually received any financial profit from its own Gold found?

Our understanding is that yes we think it would, as outlined above.

3) How long with this mine stay open?

We understand that the mine will be open for approximately 8 years or so. It depends on exactly how much gold they find when they start mining, how fast they are able to mine it and could also be influenced by the international price of gold.

4) Why are residents so happy when all they will achieve is lowly paid catering and retail jobs which they already have? The length of these lowly paid jobs(if any) will not be very long.

The Park Authority is unable to comment on the views of local residents in relation to the gold mine. Our general understanding from what they have said is that even additional short term jobs would be generally welcomed by the local community. The view has also been expressed by some in the community that longer term spin offs such as mining tourism could arise.

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

5) Why can't the gold mine belong to Scotland and the profits stay in Scotland?

In law the gold is owned by the Crown Estate which is a UK-wide body and payments from the company for removing the gold will go to it. The Gold Mining company is share-holder owned so the profits from share ownership go to wherever they live. Taxes on profits and transaction will go to the UK Treasury and be disbursed from there in the usual way. We understand that the process of extracting and purifying the gold is a very specialist business and that the gold therefore needs to be sent to the place where the skills and infrastructure exist rather than vice-versa.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
E-mail: info@lochlomond-trossachs.org

Review Procedure

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

- Lodge a written request for a review within 40 working days of either the date on which you received a response from the University or the date by which you should have received a response under the terms of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004, whichever is the later.
- Include your name, address for correspondence, a description of the original request, and the reasons why you are dissatisfied; and

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

Please note that links provided to information available elsewhere are intended to assist you. Requests for information held by other public authorities, and any complaints regarding access to such information should be addressed to that authority. These review procedures relate only to information which is directly under the control of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority.

The review of your request 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.

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

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 Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004, at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS
Tel: 01344 464 610
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