



EIR Ref: 2017/029

5<sup>th</sup> April 2017

## **REQUEST UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004**

I refer to your request for information, received by email on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

We have applied the exemption under Section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as we have determined that the information sought in your request is environmental information. We are therefore handling your request under the terms of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs). In this case the public interest in maintaining this exemption and in dealing with the request in line with the requirements of the EIRs outweighs any public interest in disclosing the information under FOISA.

Your specific request and the response from the National Park Authority are provided below.

**“Please provide me with all information, including training materials, issued to the LLTNPA Rangers and the National Park police officer, about the Interpretation and enforcement of the camping byelaws, prior to their implementation on 1st March 2017.”**

The Park Authority Police officer and our Visitor Management Adviser were involved in delivering training to Park Authority Rangers on the application of the camping management byelaws. The interpretation of the terms of the byelaws is included in the byelaw documents. Rangers received scenario based training and took part in question and answer discussions to ensure they understood how the byelaws apply. Training materials were not issued for this practical element of their training. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that information is not held.

The Rangers received training in the information gathering that would be necessary, should they be required as a last resort to submit a report of a byelaw contravention to the Procurator Fiscal service. This training comprised:

- Correct use of notebooks
- Awareness of Fiscal reporting process
- Compiling internal Park Authority byelaw contravention reports
- Police support for camping byelaw enforcement
- Conflict resolution

Training materials used for the above subjects have been withheld from release as this information is considered to be internal communications which are exempt from release under R10(4)(e) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

### **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](mailto:info@lochlomond-trossachs.org) w: [lochlomond-trossachs.org](http://lochlomond-trossachs.org)

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Consideration has been given to the public interest in the disclosure of this information. Release of this information is likely to have a negative impact on the ability of the Rangers to perform an effective role in working with the police, interacting with the public and, where required, submitting byelaw contravention reports.

It has been concluded that there is a greater public interest in Park Authority Rangers receiving operational training from the National Park Police Officer and Visitor Management Adviser, to ensure that they have the appropriate information and skills to perform their duties, in relation to the application of the camping management byelaws. The effectiveness of this training would be compromised by the release of the training materials used.

In addition to training materials as stated above, Rangers were also provided with the following information:

The Visitor Management Engagement and Enforcement Policy, available at:

<http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/rr-content/uploads/2017/03/Engagement-and-Enforcement-Policy.pdf>

Camping management byelaws, available at: <http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/rr-content/uploads/2017/02/Camping-Management-Byelaws-2017.pdf>

Leaflet on camping in the National Park, available at: <http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/rr-content/uploads/2017/02/Camping-in-the-Park-web-version.pdf>

Accordingly I can advise under R6(1)(b) of the EIRs that this information is already publically available and easily accessible.

Yours sincerely

Governance & Legal Team  
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority

#### 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 Authority 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:

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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.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info)  
E-mail: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)  
Online appeal portal: [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

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