

EIR Ref:2016/031

17<sup>th</sup> August 2016

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

I refer to your request for information, received by email on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

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 requests and the response from the National Park Authority are provided below.

"At the meeting of the 4th July at Strathard Community Halls to discuss the Management Zone and Camping Restrictions two attendees brought up the issues of the environmental report and Gordon Watson failed to respond properly to either question."

"At the meeting it was pointed out that the environmental studies were flawed as they did not cover the areas now proposed in the management plans and further it was pointed out that the company employed to do the study stated they were unable to fulfill the requirement at the time the initial study was done because insufficient understanding of the scope of the site was available to them."

A full site design was not available at the time of the study but this did not affect the integrity of the findings and the ecological report on the planning portal states this. A statement was made about the need for a bat survey if trees were identified to be felled. Trees have now been identified, a tree and bat survey are being completed and will be made available once they have been carried out and reported.

Your response to the community council only reiterates the required content of the survey and does not state if the survey has been redone, nor does it give any information as to the results of the survey.

The completed ecological report is available online with the planning application. Supplementary studies are being completed as they are required.

### **LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

# "Can you confirm a proper environmental study for the Strathard area will be undertaken and the results made public?"

Information is publically available online via our online planning portal as part of the planning process. No further report is held or required for the planning application to be determined.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer 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 Governance & Legal Services Manager:

Amanda Aikman 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

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: <a href="mailto:www.itspublicknowledge.info">www.itspublicknowledge.info</a>
E-mail: <a href="mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info">enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info</a>