

September 2016

Q. A couple of months ago I noticed new Pay and Display machines at the Inveruglas car park which were not then in operation. I would like to request under Freedom of Information the cost to the LLTNPA of installing these machines (I forgot to count them so please also confirm how many machines were installed).

A.The cost for installing the concrete bases and proprietary cradles was £562.20. This was carried out by a contractor. Two national park staff then spent two hours installing the meters on the bases. There are two machines.

Q. provide me with or point me to the Board Meeting which approved the installation of these machines and any car park charging policy.

A. Charging for the use of car parking was included as part of the Park Authority Commercial Strategy paper which was submitted to the Board for approval at the meeting of 17th June 2013. A copy of this paper is attached.

The National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 includes provision for the Park Authority to raise charges. Schedule 2 refers: 'A National Park authority may fix and recover charges for goods, services and facilities provided in the course of carrying out its functions.'

Q.provide me with any data the Park has on use of this carpark apart from Ranger Patrol records which I have.

A. Ranger patrols report on the use of the car park, basic details of which are recorded on patrol records. There is no other information held on the use of the Inveruglas car park. Accordingly I have to advise under R10(4)(a) of the EIRs that no relevant information is held.

Q. provide me with or point me to any Board papers or internal documents which have determined the LLTNP's policy and practice in terms of locking of gates - for example, on visiting Firkin point I noticed that the gates are shut at 9pm in summer but much earlier in winter and would like to understand the Park's basis for this while in other places, such as the carpark by your Convener's House, you have told me the gates are not locked at all at present."

A.The decision to lock gates is an operational matter which is taken on a case by case basis according to conditions on site, which will vary according to different seasons and weather conditions. There is no overarching policy, therefore I have to advise you under R10(4)(a) of the EIRs that no relevant information is held.

Q. Please provide the cost of the two pay and display machines at Inveruglas, whether purchased or leased, and any consequent costs to this e.g. has the LLTNPA contracted anyone to pay for maintenance of these machines or collection of money from them.

A.The cost of purchasing the two parking meters and associated accessories was £7,846. There is no maintenance contract for the meters. The café on site are paid to manage the collection of money from the machines.