

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park

A scenic photograph of Loch Lomond, a large body of water reflecting the surrounding landscape. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains, some with patches of snow. A flock of birds is visible in the sky above the water. The foreground shows the calm surface of the loch, which acts as a mirror for the sky and the distant mountains.

Visitor/Camping Management Byelaws:
Developing New Approaches

Current Pressures and Issues

5 Lochs Patrol Figures 2013 (April - Sept)					
	Tents	People	Fires	Vehicles	Caravans
Loch Earn	2784	9567	713	6311	1780
Balquhiddar	269	833	57	659	21
Loch Lubnaig	456	2360	96	2752	112
Loch Venachar	993	4364	238	3118	240
Total	4502	17124	1104	12840	2153

How byelaws work



A National Park authority may make byelaws for the Park for the purpose of:

- Protecting the natural and cultural heritage of the National Park
- Preventing damage to the land or anything in, or under it,
- Securing the public's enjoyment of, and safety in, the National Park

And in particular...

A vertical poster titled 'East Loch Lomond CAMPING BYELAWS'. It features the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park logo at the top. The poster is divided into sections: 'RESPECT' (green background) explaining the purpose of the byelaws; 'NO CAMPING' (red background) stating it is an offence to camp in the restricted zone at any time of day or night, with a maximum fine of £500 and a 'No Camping' symbol; 'The restrictions apply to:' (blue background) listing rules for tents, gazebos, tarpaulin shelters, and sleeping in motor vehicles, with a moon icon and a list of restrictions; and 'POLICE' (white background) providing contact information for Central Scotland Police and a 'Police Scotland' logo. At the bottom, it states the area is patrolled by Police and National Park Rangers, provides contact information for further information, and lists the website, email, and phone number for the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority.

How byelaws work

...And in particular:

- a) To regulate and prohibit the lighting of fires
- b) To prohibit the depositing of rubbish and the leaving of litter,
- c) For the prevention or suppression of nuisances
- d) To regulate the use of vehicles
- e) To regulate the exercise of recreational activities



Byelaw making process

Timeline:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| • Develop proposals and informal consultations | Dec-March |
| • Draft byelaws | Feb |
| • NP Board approve draft byelaws | Mar |
| • Finalise Draft byelaws for consultation | Apr-June |
| • Formal Consultation: 12 weeks | June- Aug |
| • NP Board consider final byelaws | Sept |
| • Byelaws to SG | Dec |
| • SG confirmation consultation: 4 weeks | Jan 15 |
| • Ministerial approval and/or amended | May |

Byelaws in operation

Enforcement:

- Enforced by Rangers and Police
- Level 2 fines, report to PF
- Recording incident details and preparing statements
- Evidence in court

Public information:

- Comms Plan
- Signage at key points
- Webinfo/leaflets
- Patrol plans

Risks

National:

- Park seen as banning campers or anti-access
- What happens over the border, displacement...
- Support from SNH, FCS...

Local:

- Landowner/community concerns over displacement, allocation of permits and capacity
- Impact on fishing activity, local clubs, riparian owners, permits...
- Long history of “FREE” camping, seen as part of the “cultural heritage”
- Loch Lomond boating community concerns

Risks

During byelaw preparations:

- Time for informal consultations and winning support
- Time for drafting and re-drafting
- Consultation response unknown, time to consider/address
- Delays at SG for confirmation or sign off

Implementation:

- Phased approaches and displacement
- Infrastructure not in place to meet demand
- Private sector do not/slow to take up business opportunities to offer camping experiences


What byelaws might look like

- **Flexible** in application: seasonal, time limited
- Regulate **range of activities**: camping, fires, parking...
- Tackle **irresponsible behavior**: litter, abandoned camp sites, damage, disturbance...
- Across the Park: **zones and buffers**
- **Enforceable** by us and partners: Rangers, police, FCS...
- Allows for **conditional permitted use**: designated sites and limited permits within regulated zones

Visitor Management Zones with Road Buffer and Camping Pressures

KEY

Visitor Management Zones

-  High Pressure
-  Medium Pressure

Camping Pressures

-  High
-  Medium
-  Low

Caravan Motorhome Pressure

-  High
-  Medium
-  Low

ELL Camping Byelaw Zone

Road Buffer

-  250m Road Buffer

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK

High Pressure Management Zone

- 1 Loch Earn
- 2 Loch Lubnaig, Loch Venachar & Loch Achray
- 3 East Loch Lomond
- 4 Loch Lomond Islands
- 5 Luss
- 6 Loch Lomond
- 7 West Highland Way

Medium Pressure Visitor Management Zone

- 1 Loch Lubhair
- 2 Balquhider Glen
- 3 East Loch Katrine
- 4 Strathard
- 5 North West Loch Lomond
- 6 Loch Eck
- 7 Arrochar Alps

0 5 10 Kilometres
SCALE @A2: 1:150,000

