

EIR Ref: 2017/008

20th February 2017

REQUEST UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004

I refer to your request for information, received by email on 25th January 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 requests and the response from the National Park Authority are provided below. Please note that the National Park Authority is not a council.

(a) do you know how many individual trees the council own or are responsible for?

This information is not recorded by the Park Authority. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held by the Park Authority.

(b) if so, how many? (please exclude woodland/forest type areas from the answer).

N/A, see above.

(c) If not, please give an approximate number.

The Park Authority manages woodland across a number of sites throughout the National Park and has no record of tree numbers. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

(d) If possible please split the number between highway, housing, authority land/buildings, and park areas.

The Park Authority does not have any responsibility for the management of any housing or highways. The majority of the trees and woodland which are managed by the Park Authority are on public amenity sites and grounds around our offices. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held

(e) During financial year beginning April 2015 – to end March 2016 how much money did the council spend (£ excluding VAT) on tree work activities such as pruning, felling, and bracing/support.

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
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The Park Authority spent £2,720 on externally sources tree work activities during this period. This does not include a time cost associated with any in-house staff time spent on this work, which we do not have information on.

(f) During financial year beginning April 2015 – to end March 2016 how much did the council spend (£ excluding VAT) on tree planting activities.

There was no money spent by the Park Authority on tree planting activities. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

(g) During financial year beginning April 2015 – to end March 2016 how much money did the council spend (£ excluding VAT) on arboricultural consultancy activities such as tree surveying, decay detection, subsidence investigation, etc.

There was no money spent by the Park Authority on this kind of work. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

(h) During financial year beginning April 2015 – to end March 2016 how many authority owned trees were felled?

Less than 20`

(i) During financial year beginning April 2015 – to end March 2016 how many trees were planted by the authority?

There were no trees were planted by the Park Authority. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held. However some trees (<60) were planted on land owned or managed by the Park Authority by the public with our permission as memorials.

(j) Across all departments, based on a normal working week how many persons are employed by the authority with responsibility for the management of trees such as; managers, tree/ arboricultural officers; surveyors? Please include any persons employed through PFI contracts servicing the authority. When answering please detail how many persons in which departments, the job role and how many hours per week, on average, are dedicated to tree management.

- 1 FTE post woodland adviser
- 0.1 FTE of Conservation & Land Use Manager time (estimate)
- 0.05 FTE planning casework advice time (estimate)
- Maintenance Team carry out tree work across our sites

(k) If persons are employed through PFI contracts, please confirm how many?

None. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

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

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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:

Governance & Legal Team
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.

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
Online appeal portal: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

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