



FOI Ref: 2019/013

9th August 2019

REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 16th July 2019. Your specific requests and the Park Authority's response are provided below.

Please could you provide the following information for 2019:

- 1. Number of Sites**
 - a. 6 Offices
 - b. 2 Campsites
- 2. Number of Employees**
 - a. FTE of 160
- 3. Number of IT Staff**
 - a. 2.5
- 4. Annual IT Budget for current financial year**
 - a. 725k
- 5. Number of Datacentres and locations, owned or third party**
 - a. 2 both owned
- 6. What firewall vendor(s) and model do you currently use?**

Details of the firewall vendor and model used by the Park Authority have been withheld from release under Section 30(c) of FOISA as it is considered that the release of this information would otherwise prejudice substantially, or be likely to prejudice substantially, the effective conduct of public affairs.

Application of public interest test

In respect of the withheld information under Section 30(c) we have considered the public interest test, i.e. the public interest in favour of disclosure balanced against the public interest in maintaining the exemption. In considering the public interest, we have given careful consideration to the content of the information, the current context and the effect of disclosure, for the Park Authority's ability to perform its functions effectively and for the wider general public.

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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In considering the public interest, we have considered matters that are of serious concern or benefit to the public and not merely someone's individual interest.

Public interest in disclosure

We recognise that there is a public interest in understanding the work of a public authority including decisions made on the type of products and tools in place to facilitate the public services that it provides. There is a public interest in individuals being able to exercise their rights under FOISA in order to enhance their understanding of the work of a public authority and ensure openness and accountability in relation to the services provided to the public

Public interest against disclosure of withheld information

The Park Authority has a duty to process information in order to provide a range of services to the public. Many of the services provided by the Park Authority are managed electronically. The Park Authority has statutory responsibilities as a planning and access authority to manage its records effectively. In addition, the Park Authority must take all necessary measures to hold personal data securely as a requirement of the GDPR's.

There is a clear public interest to ensure that the electronic information processed by the Park Authority is protected through the use of effective tools including the use of firewalls. It is considered that the release of specific information about the firewall vendor and specific model currently used by the Park Authority is likely to prejudice substantially the ability of the Park Authority to protect its information from cyber-attack. If this information was put into the public domain it would be possible to research how to hack or bypass our systems.

Overall, the Park Authority has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption in this case outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the withheld information

- a. **When was the installation date of above?**
 - i. **05/2017**
- b. **When is your planned (or estimated) refresh date? (Month/year)**
 - i. 10/2019
- c. **What is your estimated budget for the refresh?**
 - i. Included in figure for switch replacement below
- d. **What date does your support contract end? (Month/year)**
 - i. Ended 03/2019
- e. **What is the value of your support contract?**
 - i. Value was £575 per annum

7. What network switch vendor(s) and model do you currently use?

Details of the network switch vendor(s) and model currently used by the Park Authority have been withheld from release under Section 30(c) of FOISA as it is considered that the release of this information would otherwise prejudice substantially, or be likely to prejudice substantially, the effective conduct of public affairs.

Application of public interest test

In respect of the withheld information under Section 30(c) we have considered the public interest test, i.e. the public interest in favour of disclosure balanced against the public interest in maintaining the exemption. In considering the public interest, we have given careful consideration to the content of the information, the current context and the effect of disclosure, for the Park Authority's ability to perform its functions effectively and for the wider general public.

In considering the public interest, we have considered matters that are of serious concern or benefit to the public and not merely someone's individual interest.

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Public interest in disclosure

We recognise that there is a public interest in understanding the work of a public authority including decisions made on the type of products and tools in place to facilitate the public services that it provides for the public. There is a public interest in individuals being able to exercise their rights under FOISA in order to enhance their understanding of the work of a public authority and ensure openness and accountability in relation to the services provided to the public

Public interest against disclosure of withheld information

The Park Authority must take all necessary measures to hold protect the information that it processes in the course of delivering services it provides including planning and access information. In particular the Park Authority must process personal data securely as a requirement of the GDPR's. It is considered that the release of specific information about the network switch vendor(s) and model currently used by the Park Authority is likely to prejudice substantially the ability of the Park Authority to protect its information from cyber-attack. If details of the networks switch vendor and model were released into the public domain this would increase the risk of a cyber security breach.

The Park Authority has therefore concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption in this case outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the withheld information.

- a. **Number of switches?**
 - i. 16
- b. **When was the installation date of above?**
 - i. 2007
- c. **When is your planned (or estimated) refresh date? (Month/year)**
 - i. 10/2019
- d. **What is your estimated budget for the refresh?**
 - i. 175K Including firewalls and project costs
- e. **What date does your support contract end? (Month/year)**
 - i. 11/2019
- f. **What is the value of your support contract?**
 - i. £2,850 – only core switches covered

8. If you outsource your IT works, please provide who it is with and when the contract started and ends.

The Park Authority's IT works are not outsourced. Accordingly, we have to advise you under section 17(1)(b) of the Act, that this information is not held.

9. Do you use cloud services, eg Azure/AWS?

The Park Authority does not use cloud services. Accordingly, we have to advise you under section 17(1)(b) of the Act, that this information is not held.

10. How much do you spend per year on the above service?

The Park Authority does not use such services, therefore there is no annual spend. Accordingly, we have to advise you under section 17(1)(b) of the Act, that this information is not held.

Yours sincerely

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Governance & Legal Team
Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority

Review Procedure

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, or the way in which the Authority has dealt with your request, you are entitled to require the Authority to review its decision. Please note that in order for a review to take place you are required to:

- Send your request for review in writing, setting out in full the reasons why you are requesting a review.
- Submit your review request 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 Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, whichever is the later.
- 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

The review 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 Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS
Tel: 01334 464610
Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info
E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Online appeal portal: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

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