



EIR Ref 2019/026

20<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The information you have requested is environmental information, as defined in Regulation 2 of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs). The Park Authority has an obligation to deal with your request under the EIRs and an option to also deal with your request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA), unless the public interest lies in dealing with your request solely under the EIRs.

We consider that the public interest in dealing with your request solely under the EIRs outweighs the public interest in also dealing with your request under FOISA, on the basis that the public interest is not served by duplicating consideration of your request under both regimes. We have therefore applied the exemption in section 39(2) of FOISA and dealt with your request under the EIRs alone.

Your specific request and the response from the National Park Authority are provided below.

**"I am writing to request under Freedom of Information all the data (suitably anonymised of course) which the Park has extracted from the surveys undertaken by volunteers and referred to in para 5.13 of the Annual Update Report to Ministers approved at the last Board Meeting:**

**"Volunteers also assisted with gathering data for the Your Park Monitoring Programme with a focus on potential displacement of wild camping. The volunteers surveyed the environmental quality of selected sites outside of the Camping Management Zones and where they encountered campers they used a questionnaire to help to establish the reason that they chose to camp in that location and whether this decision was influence by the introduction of the Camping Management Byelaws. Volunteers are not tasked with enforcing the byelaws."**

#### **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  
t: 01389 722600 f: 01389 722633 e: [info@lochlomond-trossachs.org](mailto:info@lochlomond-trossachs.org) w: [lochlomond-trossachs.org](http://lochlomond-trossachs.org)

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The 2019 annual update to Scottish Ministers submitted to the Park Authority Board meeting held on 9th December 2019, referred to data recorded by Volunteer Rangers for the purpose of monitoring potential displacement of wild camping. The main purpose of the survey was to collect anecdotal evidence from speaking with people camping and visiting survey locations to find out whether:

- displacement of wild camping is occurring;
- if there was potential displacement of wild camping, whether this may be a consequence of the Byelaws or the Your Park Project;
- what are the environmental, social and economic impacts of the potential displacement, if any; and
- what are the specific reasons for this potential displacement.

Survey locations were predetermined based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Sites should comply with the definition set for the selection of a National Park Permit Area.
- Distance of selected site from the edge of a Camping Management Zone.
- Consideration of selected site to the nearest similar type of camping experience provided by a National Park Permit Area.
- Local landowners, Ranger Service, community or historical knowledge of previous camping activity in the selected site.

The survey data is attached in three appendices as follows:

- Appendix A – Environmental Quality data. Volunteer Rangers recorded evidence of camping activity, fires, litter and damage.
- Appendix B – On sites where the Volunteer Rangers met members of the public, three questions were asked regarding their choice of location, other places where they would wild camp and whether there were locations where they would camp previously but no longer did so.
- Appendix C – There was a free text section where the Volunteer Rangers could record any additional observations.

Some personal data has been redacted from Appendices A and B specifically the name of an external third party, and the name of a Park Authority staff member below manager grade. This information has been withheld under Regulation 11(2) of the EIR's. Since this information constitutes the personal data of third parties, as a data controller, we must process it in accordance with data protection law. This legal duty is recognised in Regulation 11(2), read together with Regulation 11(3a)(a), which provides that information which is third party personal data and in respect of which disclosure would be likely to breach one or more of the Data Protection Principles, is absolutely exempt from the duty to make it available under Regulation 5(1).

The Park Authority has been engaging with stakeholders to discuss the operation of the byelaws and seek feedback from partner agencies. At the last stakeholder meeting, held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019, a presentation was delivered which included information about displacement issues with interim findings on this matter for discussion. This information has been published at: <https://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/park-authority/park-stakeholder-forum/>

Yours sincerely

**Governance and Legal Team**

**Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority**

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## 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](mailto: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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info)  
E-mail: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

Online appeal portal: [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

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## Displacement Monitoring - Collected Data - Environmental Quality

Date	Route	Site	Tent count	M/home count	Abandon	People	Vehicles	Fires comp.	Fires	Litter	Damage
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	minimal
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	1	1	0	4	12	2	2	1	minimal
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith (KB)	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	1	minimal
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith (JW)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	minimal
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Bracklinn Falls	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	no
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	no
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chieile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	no
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	3	minimal
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	0	2	0	4	1	6	0	12	significant
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Dalrigh	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	minimal
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	no
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Bracklinn Falls	0	0	0	15	12	0	0	0	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Kates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Brae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Milton Wild Camping Area	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	0	0	0	0	12	1	1	0	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid RSPB Boat House	1	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	
17/07/2019	Cowal	Jubilee Point (Rubha Garbh) - Loch Eck	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	1	
17/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	1	0	0	0	0	30	25	1	
17/07/2019	Cowal	Leac Bhuide Layby	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	minimal
17/07/2019	Cowal	Lochgoilhead Wild Camping Area	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	minimal
25/07/2019	Cowal	Butterbridge	1	0	0	6	4	0	0	0	
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	





## Displacement Monitoring - Collected Data - Questionnaire

Date	Route	Site	What made you choose this location to camp?	Are there any other places that you wild camp and are any in the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs area?	Are there any other places that you used to camp but don't anymore?
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid	n/a	n/a	n/a
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	Partner knew area, talked to a ranger who showed where to setup	No	No
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith (KB)	n/a	n/a	n/a
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith (JW)	n/a	n/a	n/a
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Bracklinn Falls	n/a	n/a	n/a
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	n/a	n/a	n/a
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele (layby)	n/a	n/a	n/a
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay	n/a	n/a	n/a
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	n/a	n/a	n/a
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Dalrigh	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Bracklinn Falls	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Kates	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Brae	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Milton Wild Camping Area	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	n/a	n/a	n/a
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid RSPB Boat House	n/a	n/a	n/a
17/07/2019	Cowal	Jubilee Point (Rubha Garbh) - Loch Eck	n/a	n/a	n/a
17/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	n/a	n/a	n/a

17/07/2019	Cowal	Leac Bhuide Layby	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17/07/2019	Cowal	Lochgoilhead Wild Camping Area	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
25/07/2019	Cowal	Butterbridge	Site chosen because had stayed there as a child. Has not camped much since	n/a	n/a	Previously camped on WLL and ELL - has tried permits once but doesn't want to pay
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	Regular campers from Pt Glasgow. First time here. Chosen site as easy to reach, good for kids and free.	Tried Sallochay last year.		
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	Large family grp from Greenock. Chosen as nearby have been coming for years. Good for kids. Concerned a bit re litter and some conduct, would it stop the camping at site Ardentinnny, hoped not.	n/a	n/a	
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	Man from Bishopton, regular site user, just arriving. He has a preferred spot suitable for trailer and other tents and beside camper vans. They always cleaned up at the end, he said.			He had previously camped by Loch Eck on land owned by Whistfield Inn. This practice had been discontinued. Reluctant to pay for camping.



			Engaged with woman who is part of the walled garden project:  She stopped as we drove away for the site. She was not the woman who had spoken with NP (###) that morning, but a fellow volunteer. Major concerns expressed – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• something surely could be done about camping?</li> <li>• Incidents of theft from residents– logs from woodpiles, a bin – had occurred</li> <li>• People climbed the walls of the garden</li> <li>• People from the car park/camping area used the volunteers' composting toilet</li> <li>• Mess left regularly by campers</li> <li>• A neighbour's bins filled with campers' litter so that householder cannot have own refuse removed by Council</li> </ul>		
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnay			
25/07/2019	Cowal	Lochgoilhead Wild Camping Area	n/a	n/a	n/a
25/07/2019	Cowal	Jubilee Point (Rubha Garbh) - Loch Eck	n/a	n/a	n/a
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Dalrigh	n/a	n/a	n/a
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	Proximity to Car park	no	no

08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay					
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele (layby)	n/a	n/a			n/a
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele (wild camping area)	blank	n/a			n/a
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Kates Brae	n/a	n/a			n/a
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Jubilee Woods	n/a	n/a			n/a
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	n/a	n/a			n/a
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Milton Wild Camping Area	n/a	n/a			n/a
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	n/a	n/a			n/a
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid RSPB Boat House	WHW walkers	yes			no
21/09/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Kates Brae	n/a	n/a			n/a
21/09/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Jubilee Woods	n/a	n/a			n/a
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele Wild Camping Area	n/a	n/a			n/a
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay	n/a	n/a			n/a
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Loch lubhair Car Park	n/a	n/a			n/a
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Loch lubhair Car Park	n/a	n/a			n/a
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Dalrigh	n/a	n/a			n/a

## Displacement Monitoring - Collected Data - additional notes

Date	Route	Site	Displacement Survey Comments
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid	VR - No campers on site, firepits on beach with broken glass. Minimum litter
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	VR - One tent on riverbank, survey completed. Not aware of other areas nearby for camping or the local area.
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith (KB)	VR - Area used for toilet; No campers but recent fires and rubbish left.
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith (JW)	VR - No campers, car park recently cleared of vegetation and dirt areas scraped. Looks to be getting refurbished for summer.
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Bracklinn Falls	VR - Very busy with tourists but no campers and no recent signs of camping or fires.
25/05/2019	Trossachs	Coilhallan Woods	VR - No campers, signs of recent fires. This looks to be a stop off area for motor homes and delivery drivers.
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chieile (layby)	VR - Unable to reach site due to fallen trees

31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay	VR - tree damage, fire sites and camping related litter
			VR - degradation caused by fire sites; significant pile of litter in car park. Car park is a bit of a sight too, mud and deep puddles.
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	n/a
31/05/2019	Breadalbane	Dairigh	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Bracklinn Falls	
		Lake of Menteith Kates	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Brae	
		Milton Wild Camping Area	
20/06/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	
		Inversnaid RSPB Boat House	
20/06/2019	Trossachs		
17/07/2019	Cowal	Jubilee Point (Rubha Garbh) - Loch Eck	no comments
			Met forestry rep on way in. He mentioned 30 plus tents & motorhomes at weekend. Suggested contacting (#####) at the forestry for more info.
17/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	no comments
17/07/2019	Cowal	Leac Bhuide Layby	
			Additional known camping starting to appear on new riverside walk at squirrel bench
17/07/2019	Cowal	Lochgoilhead Wild Camping Area	Engaged with walkers as well as campers
25/07/2019	Cowal	Butterbridge	
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnny	2 ad 2 kids 1 tent.

25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnay		
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnay	Group for the weekend to comprise 2 x trailer tents, 2 x camper vans and 2/3 x tents, c 17 people.	
25/07/2019	Cowal	Shepherd's Point Ardentinnay	<i>Entry is not a camper; no site condition data</i>	
25/07/2019	Cowal	Lochgoilhead Wild Camping Area	1 tent on low level part of site Litter noted	
25/07/2019	Cowal	Jubilee Point (Rubha Garbh) - Loch Eck	Day visitors just passing through One tent and one car seen at a restricted size pull-in a little south of Jubilee Point.	
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Dalrigh	As the area is a car park the vehicles are expected here.	
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	This site is disgusting	
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay		
08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele (layby)	Site not flat. No evidence of camping. Lots of loo waste	

08/08/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele (wild camping area)	Scouts	
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Kates Brae	n/a	
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Jubilee Woods	n/a	
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Coihallan Woods	n/a	
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Milton Wild Camping Area	n/a	
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Milton Car Park	n/a	
17/08/2019	Trossachs	Inversnaid RSPB Boat House	couple from Holland who were packing up their tent. They had really enjoyed their stay and commented that finding the camping site was really easy. Far better than in other countries they had visited. They were doing WHW and had stayed at a permit site earlier in week. They said this had been very easy to book.	
21/09/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Kates Brae	n/a	
21/09/2019	Trossachs	Lake of Menteith Jubilee Woods	n/a	
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Lochan Lairig Chiele Wild Camping Area	n/a	
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Glen Lochay	n/a	
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	n/a	
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Loch Iubhair Car Park	n/a	
27/09/2019	Breadalbane	Dalrigh	n/a	

TOTAL