



EIR Ref: 2020/016

19<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## REQUEST UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and your subsequent clarification of 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020. The information you have requested is environmental information, as defined in Regulation 2 of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs). We have therefore applied the exemption in section 39(2) of FOISA and dealt with your request under the EIRs alone.

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

### 1. User numbers for each of these car parks over past few years (Ben Ledi, Kilmahog and Bochastle)

The National Park Authority does not hold user numbers for the car parks at Ben Ledi and Bochastle which are owned by Forest Land Scotland, and we have not recorded user numbers for the car park at Kilmahog. Accordingly we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

As part of discussions between Forestry and Land Scotland and the National Park Authority, estimates of the predicted number of annual vehicles and people using these car parks were made. Forestry and Land Scotland provided figures based on previous car park income and the National Park Authority contributed car estimates from people counter data and average number of persons per car as follows:

Car park	capacity	Predicted annual vehicles	People counter estimates
Kilmahog	15	5000	14000

### 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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Bochastle	30	10000	45000
Ben Ledi (old)	12	13000	40000

**2. Any consultations with visitors or locals concerning these car parks, including acceptance of charges and charge level?**

There has not been specific consultation with visitors or locals in relation to the car parks at Ben Ledi, Kilmahog and Bochastle. Accordingly we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

We can however advise that a visitor survey was completed for the Callander Landscape Partnership in 2017. Visitors were surveyed at Station Road Car Park; Bracklinn Falls Car Park; and The Meadows Car Park.

Visitors provided feedback in relation to car parks in response to questions about suggested improvements to the Falls of Leny. Suggestions to improve Callander included providing cheaper car parking or free short stay parking.

The National Park Authority has recently introduced a pilot system of monitoring car park capacity across the National Park over peak times at the weekend. Details can be found at: <https://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/park-authority/covid-19-coronavirus/car-parks-visitor-facilities/#status>

**3. Plans for revamp of Bochastle Car Park and cost**

Work began on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 on a £160,000 investment to upgrade and expand the Bochastle Car Park. Details can be found by using planning reference 2019/0155/DET to search our online planning portal at: <https://eplanning.lochlomond-trossachs.org/OnlinePlanning/?agree=0>

The work on the car park is expected to take approximately eight weeks to complete, during which time the car park will be closed for public access. The car park will be resurfaced and increased in size from 14 spaces to 29. (Initial estimates put the increased capacity at 30 however the actual capacity will be 29 spaces).

Funding for the Bochastle works has been provided by Forth Valley & Lomond LEADER, National Lottery Heritage Fund and the National Park Authority.

**4. Proposed level of fees for parking**

Car park	Charge(short stay)	Charge(day)
Kilmahog		£3
Bochastle		£3
Ben Ledi	£3	

**5. How are parking fees to be collected?**

A decision on the method of collecting parking fees has not yet been confirmed.

**6. What is the proposed deal with CCDT, roles and responsibilities**

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CCDT has put forward a proposal for a car park package; management of Kilmahog, Bochastle and Bracklinn car parks in exchange for taking on maintenance and upkeep of the new bridge at Falls of Leny and Bracklinn bridge. The National Park Authority's Director of Planning is reviewing and considering this proposal. The CCDT representative who has attended meetings to discuss this matter has advised that CCDT do not see this proposal as the only possible way forward.

The proposal would involve CCDT managing the three car parks mentioned and taking the fees raised at them through the introduction of charging machines. CCDT would use this income to maintain and upkeep both Bracklinn Bridge and the new pedestrian footbridge at Falls of Leny (planned for installation in late 2021).

**7. Who will be responsible for insurance, policing, parking fines, rubbish clearance and maintenance**

Arrangements for these matters are still under discussion.

**8. Facilities for Motor Homes?**

There have been no facilities for motor homes proposed as part of the current development work at Bochastle, however access is not intended to be restricted.

**9. Electric Charging Points?**

There are no electric charging points planned for the current work at Bochastle car park.

**10. Any working documents that show charging for parking is viable and profitable**

As part of early discussions with Forestry and Land Scotland for a number of car parts, cost estimates were made in terms of annual predicted income, site maintenance and balance as shown in the following table:

Site	Predicted income	Site maintenance	Balance
Kilmahog	£15,000	£2,000	£13,000
Bochastle	£30,000	£5,000	£25,000
Ben Ledi	£39,000	£3,000	£36,000

Yours sincerely

**Governance and 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.

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- 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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