



EIR Ref:2020/010

14<sup>th</sup> August 2020

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

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 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.

**“none of the 20 sites for motor homes that were proposed, for one night stays, to CCs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July, belong to the LLTNP?”**

The 20 sites for motor homes that were under consideration by Forestry and Land Scotland, for one night stays, as mentioned at the Community Council video conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, are on the National Forest Estate and are not owned by the National Park Authority.

The proposal mentioned refers to the ‘Stay the Night’ scheme that Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) have been piloting, the link can be found [here](#). This is a separate scheme from the National Park Authority motorhome permits, which are available within Camping Management Zones on the Three Lochs Forest Drive, Inveruglas and Firkin Point. The National Park Authority is in discussion with FLS about where more of their sites could be included in the permit system it manages. It is understood the wider pilot has since been suspended.

**“Land and Forestry Scotland would be the ones for us to encourage to open these sites and then equip them? We know they have no funds to do so, would you support them in asking the SG for tourism infrastructure support? Fergus Ewing wrote to Camping in the Forest and expects them to open up: surely a letter from LLTNP to encourage him to resource public L&FS sites would be a good idea?”**

The National Park Authority has been successful at being awarded Scottish Rural Tourism Infrastructure Funds to invest in various visitor sites, most recently refurbishing toilets and car

### **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)

Printed on paper sourced from certified sustainable forests

Page 1 of 3

parks in the Loch Lomond Area, this has included a chemical toilet disposal point and 24 hour access toilets for camper vans.

The National Park Authority has already invested significantly in facilities on the National Forest Estate, notably developing new campsites at Loch Chon and Loch Achray. The National Park Authority continues to discuss where new investment in visitor facilities might be made on the National Forest Estate including exploring potential funding sources.

**“Has the LLTNP corresponded with Scottish Enterprise to encourage them to perhaps open their building in the centre of Balloch, the old station building, to provide extra toilets? I will do so.”**

The old station building in Balloch is managed by Visit Scotland. Their contact details and opening times can be found on their website at: <https://www.visitscotland.com/info/services/balloch-icentre-p332391>

The toilet provision in Balloch includes significant facilities at Balloch Bus Station, an automated toilet at The Old Station and toilets at Balloch Castle and the jetty kiosk, which are all managed by West Dunbartonshire Council.

**“Has the LLTNP ever looked at the possibility of taking on the Ardlui Outdoor Centre and running this as another boat access point to the loch, with a café and visitor centre? There is plenty of parking there, it might take the pressure off Luss.”**

The National Park Authority has not looked at taking on and running the Ardlui Outdoor Centre.

**“Please could a list of furloughed employees, by grade, not name, be provided?”**

The number of furloughed staff is shown below. Most staff roles were associated with managing visitors and facilities that were affected by lock down and were brought off furlough as the various phases of Scottish Government Route Map relaxations allowed those activities to resume. There are now only 3 staff remaining on furlough leave.

Staff Grade	No, of staff furloughed
A	7
A1	3
B	4
B1	9
C1	2

**“Councillors whose Wards extend into the LLTNP would appreciate joining calls with the LLTNP beside CC and MSPs, please.”**

The Community Council video conferences are attended by National Park Board members who are either locally elected or Council nominated. A number of local MSPs requested to attend the most recent meeting. The National Park encompasses seven Council Wards, each with three Councillors. Inviting all Ward Councillors to these meetings could make them very unwieldy to manage. A recent virtual meeting you attended with the National Park Authority Convener undertook to consider whether there could be more practical ways to engage with local authority Councillors who represent a Ward in the National Park.

Yours sincerely

#### **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 w: lochlomond-trossachs.org

Printed on paper sourced from certified sustainable forests

**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.
- 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)

**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)  
Printed on paper sourced from certified sustainable forests