



EIR Ref:2020-011

21st August 2020

REQUEST UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 27th 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.

“Following the publicity about the number of people that have been charged under the camping byelaws during the course of one weekend <https://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/park-authority/blog/21-people-charged-irresponsible-camping-national-park/> please provide me, under FOI/EIRs if necessary, information about the people that have been charged under the camping byelaws since the start of lockdown until 17th July, when the camping permit areas officially re-opened, broken down - as in the reports to Scottish Ministers - by:”

a) “Total”

From 23rd March to 17th July 2020 National Park Authority Rangers did not report any offences under the camping byelaws. From 23rd March to 6th June 2020 there were no National Park Authority Rangers out on patrol in the National Park, as a result of national lockdown restrictions. Limited Ranger staff were deployed on solo reconnaissance patrols from the 6th June at weekends only, as lockdown restrictions eased.

The National Park Authority is aware of Police Scotland having charged 39 individuals with offences under the camping byelaws during this time period. It is emphasised however that there may be cases dealt with by Police Scotland that the National Park Authority holds no information on

b) type of offence (i.e section of the camping byelaws that applied) and

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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National Park Authority Rangers did not report any individuals for offences under the camping byelaws between 23rd March and 17th July. The National Park Authority understands that Police Scotland charged 39 individuals for offences under sections 6(a), 8(a), 8(b) and section 13 of the camping management byelaws between 23rd March and 17th July. It is emphasised there may be cases processed by Police Scotland that the Park Authority holds no information on.

c) whether the person was charged/referred to the Procurator Fiscal by the Police or by Park Rangers.

The National Park Authority did not report any individuals to the Procurator Fiscal for offences under the camping byelaws between 23rd March and 17th July. The National Park Authority is aware of 10 cases reported by Police Scotland to the Procurator Fiscal for offences under the camping byelaws between 23rd March and 17th July. It is emphasised there may be cases reported to the Procurator Fiscal by Police Scotland that the Park Authority holds no information on

I would also ask for the total number of warnings issued by LLTNPA rangers for breach of the camping byelaws during this period as per the LLTNPA's usual practice.

No warnings were issued to any individuals by National Park Authority Rangers for breach of the camping byelaws between 23rd March and 17th July.

From 23rd March to 6th June 2020 there were no National Park Authority Rangers out on patrol in the National Park, as a result of national lockdown restrictions on all non-essential workers in relation to Covid-19. Limited Ranger staff were deployed on solo reconnaissance patrols from the 6th June at weekends only as lockdown restrictions eased.

Please also provide

1) any assessment the LLTNPA has undertaken about the impact the use of the camping byelaws to enforce government guidance on Covid-19 has had on human rights and

The camping byelaws apply to unauthorised camping and associated activities in camping management areas. These are the only purposes that the camping byelaws have been used for by the National Park Authority.

2) copies of all guidance issued to staff about enforcement of the byelaws during this period

No byelaw enforcement was undertaken by National Park Authority staff between 23rd March and 17th July, and no additional guidance was issued to staff about enforcement of the byelaws during this period, therefore there is no information held.

Yours sincerely

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

Review Procedure

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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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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