



Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
Carrochan
Carrochan Road
Balloch
G83 8EG

11th November 2022
EIR 2022-020

REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 28th September 2022, and your subsequent clarification, received on 14th October 2022. 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 Park Authority's response are provided below.

Request received on 28th September 2022

“Please provide any communications regarding the translocation of beavers to/from or within your location authority. Please include internal communications, as well any communications with external bodies or individuals that have occurred within the last five years.”

Internal and external correspondence regarding the translocation of beavers within the National Park area since 2020 are attached in Appendix A (2020 and 2021) and Appendix B (2022). Email attachments relating to beaver translocation are also attached with an inventory of the documents provided at the end of this letter.

There was no relevant correspondence found from 2019 on this subject. Accordingly we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

Some information has been redacted, specifically the personal details, names, emails and telephone numbers of external third parties, the names and contact details of Park Authority staff below manager grade, as well as some personal data contained within the body of emails.

This information has been withheld under Regulation 11(2) of the EIR's. Because 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

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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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).

Clarification of request received on 14th October 2022

“Please can you narrow the request to instances of where your authority has been asked to allow beavers to be moved within the national park, including the authority's responses?”

The National Park Authority has not received any requests to allow beavers to be moved within the National Park. Accordingly we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held. As advised in our letter of 12th October 2022, The process of translocating beavers is managed under licence, this process rests with NatureScot: <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/licensing/species-licensing-z-guide/beavers-and-licensing>

We can however advise that the Park Authority has supported a recent independent stakeholder consultation exercise on a potential beaver translocation project at the RSPB Loch Lomond reserve.

“Please also include any internal communications in which authority staff have discussed requests for beavers to be translocated into the national park. Would it be possible to have communications from 2019 onwards?”

Internal communications on the subject of beaver translocations since 2020 are included in Appendix A. There was no relevant communications found from 2019. Accordingly we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

As stated above, the process of translocation of beavers is operated under licence by Nature Scot. The Park Authority has contributed at a senior level to participatory workshop sessions run earlier this year, which led to the creation of a new [Scotland's Beaver Strategy 2022-2045](#). In 2021 the subject of beavers formed part of a strategic level document, the [draft Future Nature Route Map](#), which was submitted to the Park Authority Board in June 2021. This document contains a specific reference to beavers in the Outline Delivery Plan (section 10.1, (iii), p.14)

Yours sincerely

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

Inventory of Documents

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Appendix A – email correspondence 2020 and 2021

Appendix B – email correspondence 2022

1_Letter from Lorna Slater

2_Letter to Minister LLTNPA

3_CNPA letter to Minister

4_Beavers mapping information

5_NatureScot approach beaver translocation

6_RSPB Stakeholder summary

7_RSPB press release

8_RSPB Beaver engagement report

(Papers available on request)

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:

Information Manager
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

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Online appeal portal: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

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