



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

FOI Ref: FOI 2022-032
16th December 2022

REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 30th November 2022. Your specific requests and the Park Authority's response are provided below.

'I am writing to you to request the following information.

1)The total spend, broken down by financial or calendar year, on external legal advice since April 1, 2020. (I.e. 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 to date)

The total spend on legal professional fees by the National Park Authority in the last three financial years is shown in the table below, broken down by financial year. These figures include all external legal professional fees we have received in the requested financial years, which includes but is not limited to, external legal advice, court dues, title searches with Registrar of Scotland, caveat renewals and legal adviser support for Planning and Access Committees/Local Review Bodies. Some of the total spend may be recoverable via an award of expenses, as it relates to ongoing court cases.

| 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 to date | Total |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 37,636.62 | 117,538.50 | 87,344.85 | 242,519.97 |

1a) Please break this down by the list of associated cases or disputes, and their individual cost.

The National Park Authority instructs external legal advice for a wide range of matters. Our financial records do not readily break down the cost of individual cases or disputes. We are unable to provide a breakdown of the associated cases or disputes and their individual costs from our overall legal spend, without carrying out further more detailed analysis. We therefore have to advise under Section 17(1) of FOISA that this information is not held.

1b) If possible, please provide the final settlement or damages or other court mandated payment cost for any cases during which external legal advice was sought.

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

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If it is not possible to link each case to a settlement agreement, please provide the total cost of the settlements or payments.'

There have been no damages or other court mandated payment costs payable during the specified period. Accordingly, we have to advise you under section 17(1)(b) of the Act, that this information is not held.

The total special payments made by the National Park Authority are included in our annual accounts, which are publicly available and can be accessed here:

[Annual-Accounts-2020-21.pdf \(lochlomond-trossachs.org\) page 31](#)

Our accounts for financial year ending 31 March 2022 have not yet been laid before Parliament, they are available in draft format on our website at:

[Agenda Item 7 Draft Annual Report & Accounts 31 March 2022 Appendix 1 \(lochlomond-trossachs.org\) p42](#)

Yours sincerely

**Information Management
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:

Information Manager
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
National Park Headquarters
Carrochan
Carrochan Road
Balloch
G83 8EG
E-mail: info@lochlomond-trossachs.org

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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