



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

FOI 2023-005  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Your specific requests and the Park Authority's response are provided below.

**“Please provide the following data in spreadsheet form for each financial year from 2016/17 to 2022/23\*, inclusive. (\*For 2022/23, please specify whether any figures are projected, or likely to change before 31 March 2023).”**

**“How many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Access Officers, AND/OR officers delivering outdoor access-related duties (other than Rangers\*), regardless of job title, your authority employed. “**

The National Park Authority received a request for the number of Access officers in January 2023. The previous request for this information is available on our disclosure log via the link under 2023 requests, title January – “Local Access Officers and Rangers”  
[Information responses - #LetsDoNetZero -Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park \(lochlomond-trossachs.org\)](https://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/information-responses-#LetsDoNetZero-LochLomond&TheTrossachsNationalPark)

There has been no change to the most recent staff figures since this response was issued. We can therefore advise under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, that this information is publicly available and easily accessible.

The Access officers included in the figures as shown in the previous response were all employed to deliver a purely access role.

**“How many FTE Rangers you employed. Please give an estimate of percentage time spent on access and visitor management per financial year by your Ranger Service as a whole.”**

The National Park Authority employs permanent Ranger staff and additional seasonal Ranger staff during the summer season. Ranger staff undertake a variety of tasks over the year; this includes, but is not limited to, access support via visitor management activities, work along the West Highland Way and site management across the National Park. During the summer season (April to September), our Ranger teams work predominantly on Access and Visitor Management tasks. The duties change somewhat over the winter period with an

**LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

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increase in maintenance and upkeep activities. During this time, approximately 55% of tasks are access and visitor management focused. Please note that in 2020 there was a drop in time spent on Access and Visitor Management tasks; this was due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Time spent on the work as stated above is provided in TABLE 1 in the attached Appendix 1.

**“The overall annual spend on access work for each year (excluding staff costs), giving separate figures for capital and revenue.”**

The figures in TABLE 2 in Appendix 1 shows the spend for access revenue and project spend. There has been no capital expenditure on access work from 2016 to date. Accordingly, we have to advise you under section 17(1)(b) of the Act, that this information is not held.

**“Where relevant, please provide an overall figure (1/4/16 - 31/3/23) for any external legal costs “**

The National Park Authority instructs external legal advice for a wide range of matters, 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.

Our financial records do not 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 more detailed analysis. We therefore have to advise under Section 17(1) of FOISA that this information is not held.

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

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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](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)