



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

EIR 2023/005
1st March 2023

REQUEST UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

We refer to your request for information, received by email on 9th February 2023. 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.

“I have been told that management of the recently released translocated beavers will be undertaken by LLTNP, NatureScot and the RSPB.

Please under Freedom of Information may I have a copy of the Management Plan for translocated beavers in the Loch Lomond catchment, that all three agencies are party to?”

The National Park Authority is working with NatureScot and the RSPB on the management of the Loch Lomond NNR, where a family of beavers were recently released under the terms of a licence issued by Nature Scot. We are also in discussion with Nature Scot about their post adoption report for the SEA Environmental Report for the likely effects of beaver releases into the River Forth and River Leven (Lomond) catchments and the ongoing recording of any new beaver sightings or field signs in the National Park.

There is no current operational need for a single management plan for these overlapping strands of work associated with beavers recolonising the Loch Lomond catchment. Accordingly, a single plan has not been produced and we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

“Please may I also, under the Freedom of Information, see how this work will be funded?”

In relation to your request about funding such a plan, the National Park Authority have not made any decisions about specific actions that we would need to undertake that relate to

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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funding decisions. While some specific costs may arise in future, at present we anticipate that the call on us would largely be in the form of staff time. We do not hold any information about any funding requirements that RSPB or Nature Scot would need to meet. Accordingly, we have to advise under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

Under our duty under S9(1) of the Regulations to provide advice and assistance, we can however provide some information about the work between the National Park Authority and our partner agencies on the translocation of beavers.

Scotland's Beaver Strategy 2022-2045 produced by Nature Scot is the overall plan, available at: [Scotland's Beaver Strategy 2022-2045 | NatureScot](#)

In relation to the translocation of beavers to the RSPB site and the post adoption reports for the Forth and Lomond catchments, the following points and actions have been agreed with Nature Scot and RSPB:

- We recognised the need for ongoing engagement with neighbours and the local community by RSPB, Nature Scot and the National Park Authority as land managers and in relation to our respective roles.
- We discussed the need for capacity building in the National Park for land managers around what to expect from having beavers resident and whether the existing mechanisms for engagement and discussion with land managers could facilitate this, rather than a setting up a new group specifically for beaver-related issues.
- Promoting public reporting of beaver field signs via an app - [Mammal Mapper – The Mammal Society](#)
- Nature Scot and the National Park Authority to discuss the proposals in NS's SEA ER post adoption reports to develop proportionate monitoring protocols for a range of interests for the SACs and in the wider Forth and Leven catchments, informed by beaver presence. See section 5 of the NatureScot Beaver SEA Consultation Post Adoption statement, Addendum, Loch Lomond and Forth: [Beaver SEA Consultation ER Post Adoption Statement - Addendum, Loch Lomond and Forth | NatureScot](#)
- Nature Scot to continue to operate the Beaver Mitigation Scheme to provide support with advice and mitigation. National Park Authority staff to help with engagement in supporting the transition to learning to live with beavers again, which is as much about communications as it is mitigation.
- Nature Scot to investigate LiDAR/ aerial survey (aerial radar-based mapping and surveying technology) of the National Nature Reserve, to provide additional baseline information to facilitate future comparisons of changes in vegetation communities and impacts on woodlands or other habitats.
- Nature Scot NNR team to consider mirroring the monitoring required under the translocation licence on the RSPB side and, what NS resources are required for this.

We trust that this information will be helpful.

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

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