

**YOUR  
PARK**

**Your Park**  
Transforming our lochshores

**Why are we doing this?**  
**A quick reminder**





A family of three (a woman, a man, and a child) are sitting on a wooden picnic bench, looking out over a calm loch. A green tent is pitched on the grass to their left. The scene is surrounded by tall, slender trees, and mountains are visible in the background under a soft, hazy sky. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

**The Your Park proposals were developed to help transform the experience (for everyone) on and around our busiest lochshores**

**What causes these issues?**  
**It's a combination of...**



**Sheer number of visitors over time  
causing relentless pressure**



# Selfish & irresponsible behaviour by some



# What's the impact?



**It ruins our  
natural environment**



**YOUR  
PARK**



**It's damaging for  
our visitor economy**



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**CLOSED**

**It leaves National Park  
communities feeling  
resentful and unsafe**

LOCH  
LOMOND  
& THE TROSSACHS  
NATIONAL PARK

**YOUR  
PARK**





**How do we deal with this?**  
**What tools are available?**

# **We use a careful mix to deal with the issues**





# Encouraging respect and enjoyment



- Largest Ranger Service in the UK
- Supporting teachers and school groups
- Junior Ranger initiative
- John Muir Award partnership
- Education travel grant
- Updated 'Respect Your Park' campaign
  - Go Outdoors partnership and awareness



# Improving visitor facilities & managing the pressures

- Having successfully tackled similar issues on East Loch Lomond we proposed:
  - **Camping byelaws** to manage camping in four camping management zones (less than 4% of the National Park)
  - **Informal camping facilities** in these management zones to allow for responsible camping at sustainable levels



Sallochy (before)



Sallochy (after)



# Summary of the process



- **Dec 2013**
  - Board approval to prepare and consult on visitor management proposals
- **Early 2014**
  - Informal listening phase with stakeholders
- **October 2014 - January 2015**
  - 12 week formal consultation
- **January – May 2015**
  - Refining proposals in light of consultation
- **18 May 2015**
  - Formal submission of proposals to Scottish Ministers with formal objections to be lodged with Scottish Ministers by 21<sup>st</sup> June
- **26<sup>th</sup> January 2016**
  - Scottish Ministers formally approve proposed byelaws and camping management zones

## **We are here – preparation phase**

- **1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**
  - Byelaws come into force
  - 300 camping places available across the 4 Camping Management Zones

# **What's been approved by Ministers:** **Camping management** **byelaws and zones**



# What the approved byelaws cover



- **Where you can/can't camp in the management zones**
  - including laybys not on the public road
- **Irresponsible fire-lighting**
  - including damaging firewood collection

**What areas do the byelaws  
apply to?**



# CAMPING MANAGEMENT ZONES

- West Loch Lomond zone
- East Loch Lomond zone
- Trossachs West zone
- Trossachs North zone



# **When do the byelaws apply?**

# When do the byelaws apply?



- **Begin 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**
- **From 1<sup>st</sup> March – 30<sup>th</sup> September every year thereafter**



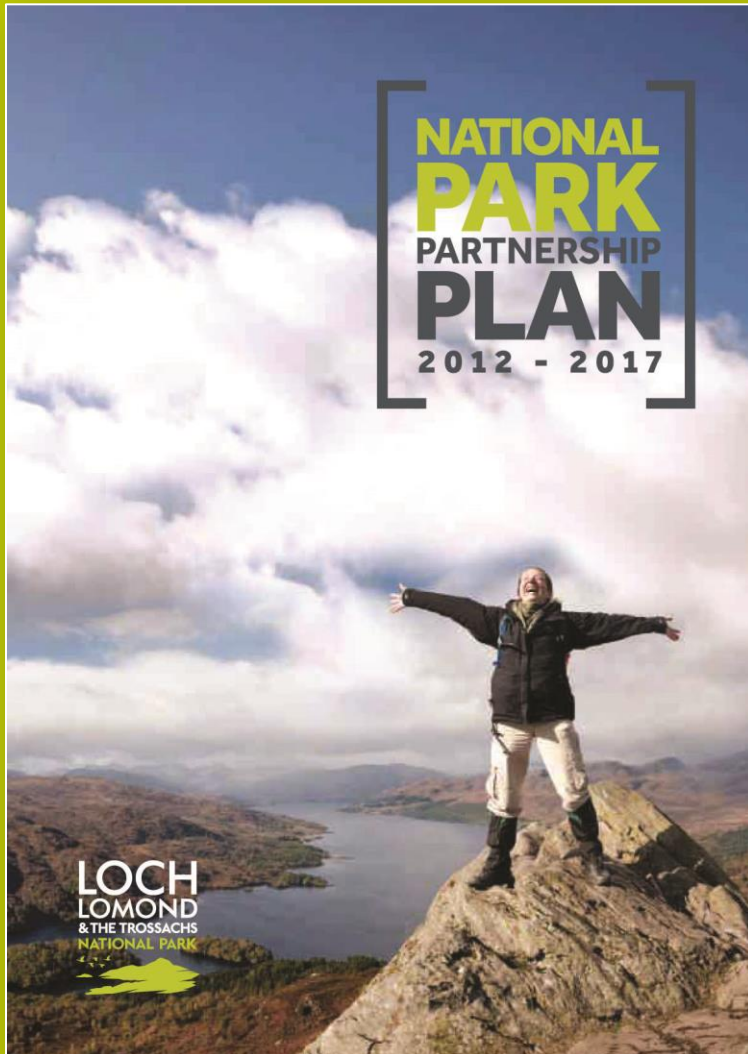
# What else have Scottish Ministers asked for?



- **Annual report** monitoring the operation of the byelaws
- **Fuller report reviewing the byelaws after 3 years** of operation
  - *same requirement as East Loch Lomond byelaws*
- Welcomed the Park Authority's assurances that **300 camping spaces** would be made available by the implementation date.

# Camping Development Strategy

# Our Vision for Camping



*'...Lots of activities for everyone on and around the Park's Lochs*

*...A variety of high quality sites for tents and campervans*

*...For people from all backgrounds to enjoy*

*...At a reasonable cost'*

**A focus on opportunities within the four Camping Management Zones**



# Existing Campsite Provision



Mapping of existing provision to help direct focus and investment:

Camping Management Zone	Existing number of tent pitches
East Loch Lomond	217 (inc. 30 at Sallochy)
West Loch Lomond	208
Trossachs West	0
Trossachs North	79 (inc. 9 at Loch Lubnaig)
<b>Total pitches</b>	<b>504</b>

# Developing places to camp in the Management Zones



## 1. Campsites with pitches

Provide a quality camping experience in an formal, but managed way, on sites with facilities and designated pitches



## 2. Camping Permit Areas

Provide an exemption to the byelaws permitting people to wild camp in a responsible, self sufficient way in a permit area



## 3. Serviced Permit Areas

Larger permit areas with basic toileting and some parking provision. A phased approach to developing provision

# Camping development



- **Motorhome** provision where possible
- Site selection **criteria** and **prioritisation**
- T&Cs for campsites and permits will include '**Leave No Trace**' conditions
- Booking based on an **online** systems.





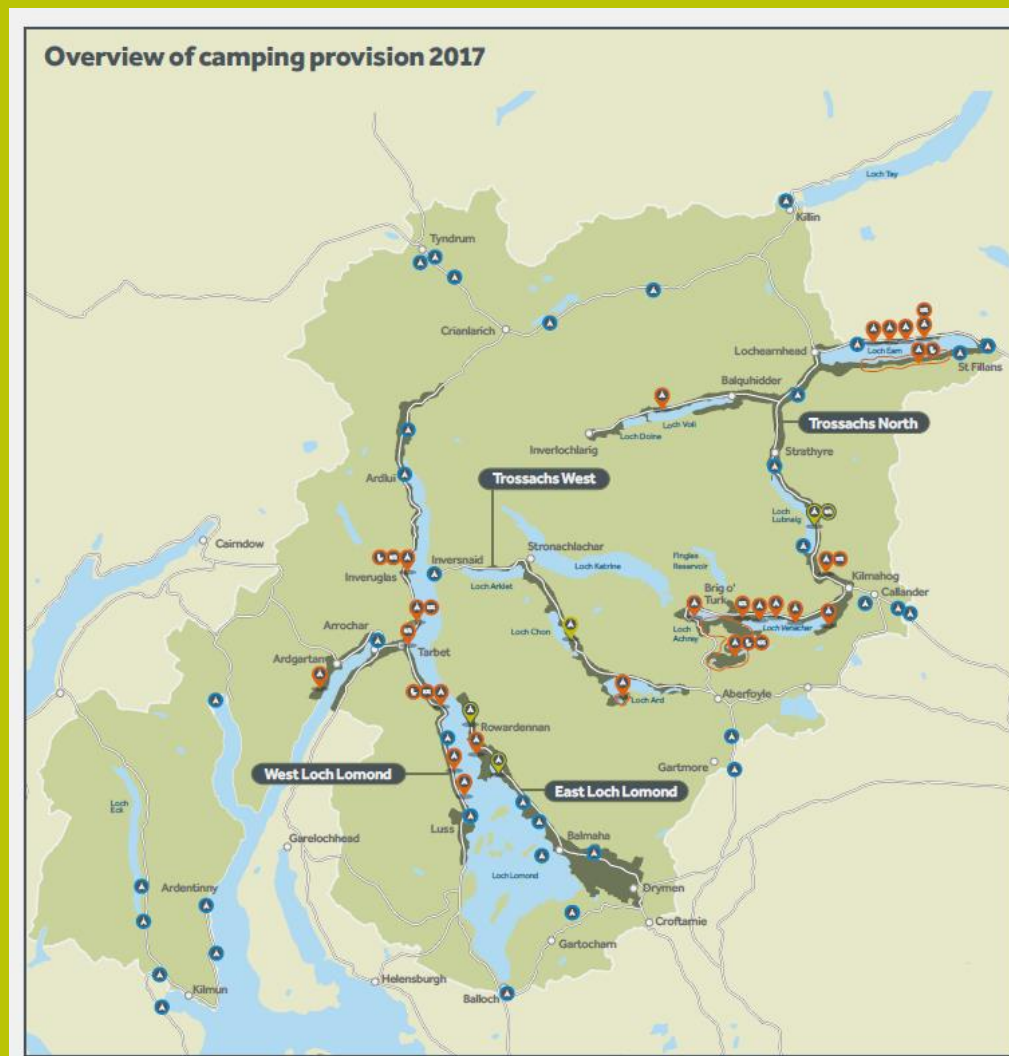
# **Camping Provision** **2017**

# Camping provision



## 2017 investment priorities:

- Loch Chon camp site
- Inveruglas
- Three Lochs Forest Drive
- Loch Earn South



# Areas for further investigation



- Landowners coming forward with land to use for campsite / permit areas
- End of season review and new options:
  - Loch Venachar North
  - Loch Achray West
  - Balquhiddar Glen
  - Loch Long
  - Loch Earn North



## 6. Operational Updates

# Camping operations:



Online booking system for Campsite booking and permits

## Campsite management:

- Sallochy model: seasonal Park Authority employees

## Site charges:

- £7 per adult per night
- Under 16's free

## Camping permits:

- £3 per tent per night
- Max 4 adults

# Ranger Service



- No.1 priority = byelaws
- Ranger training underway this week
- Checking permit areas, and enforcing the byelaws across the 4 zones
- Flexible deployment and patrolling
- Intelligence led patrolling – with help from communities / volunteers/ partners

# Support Systems



- Visitor Management data base system
- Additional administrative support to ensure quality service provision



# Signage



- Key to helping people understand what rules apply & where
- Range of different types:
  - Threshold signage
  - Repeater signage
  - Permit Area signs
  - Interpretation signage



# Repeater Signage





# Permit Area signage



**YOUR  
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**CAMPING  
MANAGEMENT ZONE**

**Loch Lomond & The Trossachs  
National Park is a special place.**

You are in a Camping Management Zone where camping is only permitted in campsites and permit areas. To find out where to camp, buy a permit or book a pitch visit: [www.lochlomond-trossachs.org](http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org)

Failure to comply with the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Camping Management Byelaws 2017, between March and September, can result in a fine of up to £500.

**LOCH  
LOMOND  
& THE TROSSACHS  
NATIONAL PARK**

**Example signage on paths**



# Engagement and Education



- Website [www.thisisyourpark.org.uk](http://www.thisisyourpark.org.uk) and social media updates @yourparktweets
- Q&As out this week
- Drop-in community roadshows: towards the end of Feb.
- Building an understanding of Your Park Delivery and how and where people can come to the National Park to camp;
- Continued engagement with young people and groups from across Scotland, increasing understanding of responsible behaviour



# Monitoring and Reporting



- Ministerial conditions:
  - Annual report** monitoring the operation of the byelaws
  - Formal report reviewing the byelaws after 3 years** of operation
- Monitoring programme to support this includes:
  - Fixed Point Photography
  - Water Sampling
  - Visitor and resident surveys
  - Ranger Patrol data
  - Support from University of Strathclyde MSc students for sustainability modelling
  - Information gathering from volunteers, communities, stakeholders and partners.

**Where are we now?**  
**And what happens next?**

# We have teams across the organisation working on...





# **Keeping you informed**

## **Hearing your views**