

Acknowledgement – Environmental Information Regulations Request – New Forest Car Parking Charging Scheme

Date: 24 March 2026

Dear Cllr Hubbard

Thank you for your correspondence which we received on 24 March 2026. This email is to formally acknowledge your request made under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) regarding the proposed introduction of car parking charges in the New Forest, along with your accompanying concerns relating to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and associated risk, environmental, and governance matters.

Your request seeks a wide range of recorded information, including:

- Equality Impact Assessment materials and evidence relating to compliance with the PSED
- Project risk assessments, mitigation records, and supporting decision-making documentation
- Environmental, ecological, animal safety and visitor-management assessments
- Business case documentation and internal decision papers
- Consultation and engagement records with statutory and local partners
- Internal and external correspondence, draft materials, and communications relating to the development of the charging proposal

We will now begin the process of identifying and retrieving the information we hold that falls within the scope of your request. Under the EIR, we are required to provide a response within 20 working days of receipt. Where any information is withheld, we will cite the relevant EIR exception(s) and provide the associated public interest test rationale.

Given the breadth of the issues raised, if it becomes apparent that the request is complex and voluminous, we may apply the permitted extension under Regulation 7. You will be informed promptly if that becomes necessary.

We will provide you with a full response as soon as reasonably practicable and within the statutory timeframe. I will be your main point of contact for this request.

Regards

Leonard Loughlin

Information Rights Manager

Forestry Commission

Note

This document has been redacted to remove limited personal contact information prior to publication.