

Please ask for Jim Milligan  
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Your ref:  
Our Ref:  
Date

Dear

### **CHARITY/LARGE SCALE EVENTS ON BEN NEVIS**

I am writing to you in relation to the above. A number of groups utilise the Glen Nevis Visitor Centre facilities when undertaking ascents of Ben Nevis. The Highland Council now has a booking policy regarding such events. There has been a huge increase in the number of such events in recent years which have become increasingly difficult to manage. This results in greatly increased traffic – both vehicular and pedestrian – utilising the Visitor Centre and its facilities, with an increased impact on the grounds and toilet facilities.

The booking system is intended to assist with the management of such events. The booking system enables us to manage increased litter collection and toilet cleaning requirements. In addition to this, it enables us to forecast when pressure is likely to be heaviest, and ensure that on such days event organisers are advised to make alternative arrangements for things like parking – on busy days it may be necessary for parking to take place out with the Visitor Centre grounds, and for participants to be transported to the Visitor Centre by bus.

The booking system is accompanied by a fee structure as detailed on the attached booking form. These fees are charged to cover the costs of increased litter collection, removal and disposal, and the increased frequency of toilet cleaning necessitated by the numbers present at such events. The booking fee does not cover specifically allocated parking areas or any other kind of service provision. Event organisers should note that the public will continue to use the facilities as normal on such days, and booking of an event does not imply that any greater priority is given to groups. Should your group require additional services then these will require to be negotiated with the Visitor Centre Manager and if it is possible to provide them, they will be charged for accordingly.

We ask all event organisers to book two years in advance if possible as the number of groups grows annually. We will also be monitoring all groups, and noting those who have not booked, or those who misuse the facilities or the mountain. Should a lack of booking or inappropriate behaviour be noted from any specific group on two occasions then we will no longer welcome that group to the facilities. Please note that we share information about Three Peaks events with facility managers at Snowdon and Scafell Pike.

Yours sincerely

Jim Milligan  
Visitor Centre Manager