

56536 Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Our request is for copies of all consents, memoranda, agreements or management plans, relating either to Arthur's Seat Volcano Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in general, or specifically to the Calton Hill part of the SSSI, between NatureScot (or Scottish Natural Heritage) and the City of Edinburgh Council, from 2011 until the present day.

Having completed searches of records held across the City Centre Neighbourhood, Parks and Greenspaces and the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan teams, we have been unable to identify any recorded information since 2011 within scope of the request.

However, I can provide the following guidance to information which is already published.

There is the Calton Hill Management Plan, which is available on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/22637/calton-hill-management-plan>.

This contains 14 references to the SSSI status.

Information at:

<https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/site-special-scientific-interest/91/site-management-statement.pdf>

from 2011 reads, "Calton Hill: Management is carried out by the City of Edinburgh Council through the City Centre Neighbourhood Team. A 10-year Calton Hill Management Plan is currently in preparation which will co-ordinate management of the hill, its greenspace and its monuments. In recent years some management has been undertaken to improve the hill, its landscape, views, access and safety. SNH were involved in these early discussions to ensure that SSSI considerations were included. The buildings on Calton Hill are excluded from the SSSI designation. There has also been some co-ordination of biodiversity work with Holyrood Park. There has been some planting of rock whitebeam and seeding of sticky catchfly. However, the seeding subsequently failed, and the Council are now trying to propagate the seed in a nursery and plant out at a later stage." Objectives for management are also included in this document.

Arthur's Seat (Holyrood Park) is an Historic Environment Scotland site that is not managed by the Council. Information on the designation can be found at:

<https://sitelink.nature.scot/site/91>