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## CAIRNGORMS LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

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**Title:** Section 13 Duty Casework

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**Purpose:** This paper provides an update on access casework for the current year.

### **Advice Sought**

Members to note that staff time available for casework is reduced during the current financial year and therefore the number of cases progressed to resolution may be reduced.

### **Summary of access casework in hand**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Live cases</b>	19
<b>Closed cases</b>	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>

### **New Cases**

New cases recorded since the last meeting are summarised below:

**Case 27 Dalnaspidal** – locked gate reported on track leading to Loch Garry and beyond. Investigation carried out and gate found to be unlocked at time of site visit. Outcome reported to complainant. Not upheld and no action taken.

**Case 28 Cromdale Hills** – Verbal confrontation involving keeper and lone female mountain biker. Complainant reported ‘threatening’ behaviour on behalf of keeper who questioned her right to be taking access after dark. Keeper alleged complainant was acting illegally by riding mountain bike on hill path and equipped with battery operated light. Keeper had thought the light was that of poachers. Complaint upheld as interference with access rights. Complainant advised of her rights however she did not wish to pursue matter further. No action taken.

**Case 26 Dalmunzie Estate, Glen Lochsie** – Signage advising the public of stalking activities and related temporary access restrictions reported as overly limiting. A previous complaint has also been received over the same issue. Case under investigation with discussion being had over potential changes to signage and availability of advance information for the public. Matter ongoing.

**Closed Cases**

**Case 23 – River Spey, Dalraddy:** behaviour – situation being monitored

**Case 26 – Speyside Way, Nethy Bridge:** locked gate – new gates being installed

**Case 27 – Dalnaspidal:** locked gate – not upheld

**Case 28 – Cromdale Hills, nr Cromdale:** complainant not wishing to pursue

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