



# National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

1949 CHAPTER 97 12 13 and 14 Geo 6

E+W+S

An Act to make provision for National Parks and the establishment of a National Parks Commission; to confer on the Nature Conservancy and local authorities powers for the establishment and maintenance of nature reserves; to make further provision for the recording, creation, maintenance and improvement of public paths and for securing access to open country, and to amend the law relating to rights of way; to confer further powers for preserving and enhancing natural beauty; and for matters connected with the purposes aforesaid. [16th December 1949]

## Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act amended by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41), **s. 38**; extended by [Post Office Act 1969](#) (c. 48, SIF 96), **Sch. 4 para. 93(1)(x)**, and [Civil Aviation Act 1982](#) (c. 16, SIF 9), s. 19(2), **Sch. 2 para. 4**
- C2** References to local planning authority to be construed in accordance with [Local Government Act 1972](#) (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **s. 184(1)-(5)**
- C3** Act extended by [Gas Act 1986](#) (c. 44, SIF 44:2), s. 67(1)(3), Sch. 7 para. 2(1)(vii), **Sch. 8 para. 33**
- C4** Act extended (E.W.) by [Water Act 1989](#) (c. 15, SIF 130), ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)-(10), 190, 193(1), Sch. 25 para. 1(2)(iv), Sch. 26 para. 3(1)(2), 17, 40(4), 57(6), **58**
- C5** Act extended (E.W.S.) by [Electricity Act 1989](#) (c. 29, SIF 44:1), s. 112(1)(3), Sch. 16 para. 1(1)(vii), Sch. 17 paras. 33, **35(1)**
- C6** The definition of "waterway" in this Act is applied (E.W.) (1.12.1991) by [Water Industry Act 1991](#) (c. 56, SIF 130), **ss. 157(6), 223(2)**  
The definition of "waterway" in this Act is applied (E.W.) (1.12.1991) by [Water Resources Act 1991](#) (c. 57, SIF 130), ss. 210(1), 225(2), **Sch. 25 para. 3(4)**
- C7** Act: functions transferred (E.W.) (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, **ss. 68(2)(a)(8), 125(2)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, **Sch. 8 para. 7**)  
Act: transfer of certain functions (W.) (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, art. 2, **Sch. 1**
- C8** Act modified (E.W.) (19.9.1996) by 1995 c. 25, **ss. 68(2)(b)(c), 125(2)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, **Sch. 8 para. 7**)
- C9** Act extended (1.3.1996) by 1995 c. 45, s. 16(1), **Sch. 4 para. 2(1)(v)**; S.I. 1996/218, **art. 2**

*Changes to legislation:* National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

C10

Act amended (1.4.1996) by [S.I. 1996/593](#), reg. 2, [Sch. 1](#)  
Act modified (1.4.2001) by [2000 c. 38](#), s. 37, [Sch. 5 para. 1\(1\)\(2\)\(c\)](#) (with s. 106)

Commencement Information

I1

Act wholly in force at Royal Assent

<sup>F1</sup>PART I E+W

THE NATIONAL PARKS COMMISSION

Textual Amendments

F1

[Pt. I](#) repealed (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), arts. 1(2), [8\(2\)\(c\)](#) (with [Sch. 7](#))

1      The Countryside Council for Wales. E+W

.....

2      ..... E+W

3      Power of Minister to give directions to the Council. E+W

.....

4      ..... E+W

PART II E+W

NATIONAL PARKS

[<sup>F2</sup> 4A    Application of Part II of this Act in Wales. E+W

- (1) The provisions of this Part of this Act shall, subject to the next following subsection, apply to land in Wales as they apply to land in England.
- (2) Where a provision of this Part of this Act confers a function on the [<sup>F3</sup>Natural England] as respects England (or areas of any description in England), the [<sup>F4</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] shall have the corresponding function as respects Wales (or areas of a similar description in Wales).

[ Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to section 11A(1A) or (1B) (duty to further <sup>F5</sup>(3) statutory purposes of National Parks in England).]]

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 4A inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 130(1), [Sch. 8 para. 1\(4\)](#); [S.I. 1991/685](#), [art. 3](#)
- F3** Words in s. 4A(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 9](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#))
- F4** Words in s. 4A(2) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), [art. 1\(2\)](#), [Sch. 2 para. 16](#) (with [Sch. 7](#))
- F5** S. 4A(3) inserted (26.12.2023) by [Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(c. 55\)](#), [ss. 245\(2\)](#), 255(9) (b) (with s. 247)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C11** S. 4A applied (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37](#), [s. 84\(3\)](#) (with [s. 84\(4\)-\(6\)](#)); [S.I. 2001/114](#), [art. 2\(2\)\(e\)](#); [S.I. 2001/1410](#), [art. 2\(g\)](#)

## 5 National Parks. **E+W**

- [<sup>F6</sup>(1) The provisions of this Part of this Act shall have effect for the purpose—
- (a) of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the areas specified in the next following subsection; and
  - (b) of promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of those areas by the public.]
- (2) The said areas are those extensive tracts of country in England <sup>F7</sup> . . . as to which it appears to [<sup>F8</sup>Natural England] that by reason of—
- (a) their natural beauty, and
  - (b) the opportunities they afford for open-air recreation, having regard both to their character and to their position in relation to centres of population,
- it is especially desirable that the necessary measures shall be taken for the purposes mentioned in the last foregoing subsection.
- (3) The said areas, as for the time being designated by order made by [<sup>F9</sup>Natural England] and submitted to and confirmed by the Minister, shall be as known as, and are hereinafter referred to as, National Parks.

#### Textual Amendments

- F6** S. 5(1) substituted (19.9.1995) by [1995 c. 25](#), [ss. 61\(1\)\(2\)](#), 125(2) (with [ss. 7\(6\)](#), 115, 117, [Sch. 8 para. 7](#))
- F7** Words in s. 5(2) repealed (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 130(1), [Sch. 8 para. 1\(5\)](#); [S.I. 1991/685](#), [art. 3](#)
- F8** Words in s. 5(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(a\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#))
- F9** Words in s. 5(3) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(a\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#))

## 6 General duties of [<sup>F10</sup>Natural England ] in relation to National Parks. **E+W**

- (1) It shall be the duty of [<sup>F11</sup>Natural England]<sup>F12</sup>... from time to time, to consider what areas there are in England <sup>F13</sup> . . . falling within subsection (2) of the last foregoing

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

section, to determine in what order they should be designated under subsection (3) of that section, and to proceed with their designation at such times as [F11Natural England] may determine.

- (2) The power of the Minister to give directions under section three of this Act shall extend to the giving of directions as to the order and time of designation of the said areas, notwithstanding that the directions may be of a specific character.
- (3) As respects areas designated as National Parks, it shall be the duty of [F14Natural England]—
  - (a) to consider, generally and in relation to particular National Parks, in what way action needs to be taken under this Act and [F15the M1Town and Country Planning Act 1971] for the purposes specified in subsection (1) of the last foregoing section, and to make such recommendations with respect thereto to the Minister and to [F16National Park authorities and]local authorities as may appear to [F14Natural England ] to be necessary or expedient, and
  - (b) to keep under review the progress made from time to time in accomplishing the said purposes and to make to the Minister or, where [F14Natural England] deem it appropriate, to any other Minister or any [F16National Park authority]local authority or other persons, such representations as appear to [F14Natural England] to be necessary or expedient as to any matter affecting the accomplishment of those purposes.
- (4) Without prejudice to the generality of the last foregoing subsection, it shall be the duty of [F17Natural England], subject to and in accordance with the following provisions of this Act in that behalf—
  - F18(a) ..... F19
  - (b) ..... F19
  - F20(c) ..... F21
  - (d) ..... F21
  - (e) to give advice where any Minister consults [F17Natural England] as to proposals for development of land in a National Park, or the appropriate planning authority consult them (whether in compliance with a requirement imposed under this Act or [F15the M2Town and Country Planning Act 1971] or otherwise) in connection with the preparation or amendment of a development plan or in connection with an application for permission to develop any such land;
  - (f) to make recommendations to the Minister and, where [F17Natural England ] deem it appropriate, to other Ministers as to any proposals for the development of land in a National Park, being proposals for development in a way which appears to [F17Natural England] to be inconsistent with the maintenance of the area as a Park;
  - (g) to notify to the Minister, or where [F17Natural England] deem it appropriate to other Ministers, the general nature of the action which will in the opinion of [F17Natural England ] need to be taken as respects land in a National Park for any of the purposes specified in subsection (1) of the last foregoing section, in cases where it appears to [F17Natural England] that the Minister in question should be informed thereof before considering future proposals for the development of the land for other purposes; and
  - (h) if in any case [F17Natural England ] are not satisfied that effect will be given to their recommendations or advice as to any matter mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs of this subsection, to refer the matter to the Minister and to advise

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

the Minister as to the exercise of any powers of direction or enforcement (including powers of making orders) conferred on him by this Act or [<sup>F15</sup>the <sup>M3</sup>Town and Country Planning Act 1971].

(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed as modifying the effect of any provision of this Act whereby any specific power or duty is conferred or imposed on [<sup>F22</sup>Natural England] or whereby an obligation is imposed on any other person to consult with [<sup>F22</sup>Natural England].

(6) In this section the expression “appropriate planning authority” means [<sup>F23</sup>a National Park authority]. . . and includes a local authority, not being a local planning authority, by whom any powers of a local planning authority as respects a National Park are exercisable, whether under the following provisions of this Act in that behalf or otherwise; and references in this section to a Minister include references to any Board in charge of a Government department.

#### Textual Amendments

- F10** Words in s. 6 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 11\(4\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F11** Words in s. 6(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F12** Words in s. 6(1) repealed (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 11\(2\)](#), [Sch. 12](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F13** Words in s. 6(1) repealed (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#) (c. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 130(1), [Sch. 8 para. 1\(5\)](#); S.I. 1991/685, [art. 3](#)
- F14** Words in s. 6(3) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F15** Words substituted by virtue of [Town and Country Planning Act 1971](#) (c. 78, SIF 123:1), [Sch. 24 para. 2](#)
- F16** Words in s. 6(3)(a)(b) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, [Sch. 10 para. 2\(1\)\(a\)](#) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, [Sch. 8 para. 7](#)); S.I. 1995/2950, [art. 2](#)
- F17** Words in s. 6(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F18** S. 6(4)(a) repealed (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 11\(3\)](#), [Sch. 12](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F19** S. 6(4)(b) repealed by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), [Sch. 5](#)
- F20** S. 6(4)(c) repealed (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 11\(3\)](#), [Sch. 12](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F21** S. 6(4)(d) repealed by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), [Sch. 5](#)
- F22** Words in s. 6(5) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F23** Words in s. 6(6) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, [Sch. 10 para. 2\(1\)\(a\)](#) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, [Sch. 8 para. 7](#)); S.I. 1995/2950, [art. 2](#)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C12** S. 6(4)(e) applied (with modifications)(1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by 2000 c. 37, [s. 84\(1\)\(a\) \(2\)](#) (with s. 84(4)-(6)); S.I. 2001/114, [art. 2\(2\)\(e\)](#); S.I. 2001/1410, [art. 2\(g\)](#)

#### Marginal Citations

- M1** 1971 c. 78.(123:1).
- M2** 1971 c. 78.(123:1).
- M3** 1971 c. 78.(123:1).

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

## 7 Designation and variation of National Parks. **E+W**

- (1) Before making an order designating a National Park [<sup>F24</sup>Natural England] shall consult with every joint planning board, [<sup>F25</sup>and local authority] whose area includes any land in the area to be designated a Park.
  - (2) Any such order shall describe the area to be designated a Park by reference to a map and such other descriptive matter as may appear to [<sup>F26</sup>Natural England] to be requisite.
  - (3) The provisions in that behalf of the First Schedule to this Act shall have effect as to the making, confirmation, coming into operation and validity of any order designating a National Park.
  - (4) The Minister may by order made after consultation with [<sup>F27</sup>Natural England] vary an order designating a National Park.
  - (5) Before making an order under the last foregoing subsection the Minister shall consult with [<sup>F28</sup>any National Park authority for the Park in question and with] every such board and council as aforesaid whose area, or any part of whose area, is comprised in the National Park, whether as existing or as proposed to be varied; and the provisions in that behalf of the First Schedule to this Act shall apply to any order under the last foregoing subsection.
  - (6) It shall be the duty of [<sup>F29</sup>Natural England] to secure that copies of any order such as is mentioned in this section shall be available, at the office of [<sup>F29</sup>Natural England], at the offices of each joint planning board and local authority specified in subsection (1) or subsection (5) of this section, as the case may be [<sup>F30</sup>at the offices (where the order is for the variation of an order designating a Park) of any National Park authority for the Park in question], and at such other place or places in or near the Park in question as [<sup>F29</sup>Natural England] may determine, for inspection by the public at all reasonable times.
- [<sup>F31</sup>(7) In this section and Schedule 1 “ local authority ” means—
- (a) in relation to England, a county council, district council or parish council;
  - (b) in relation to Wales, a county council, county borough council or community council.]

### Textual Amendments

- F24** Words in s. 7(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , s. 107 , [Sch. 11 para. 10\(c\)](#) ; S.I. 2006/2541 , art. 2 (with Sch. )
- F25** Words in s. 7(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , [ss. 60\(2\)](#) , 107(3)(b) ; S.I. 2006/2541 , art. 2 (with Sch. )
- F26** Words in s. 7(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , s. 107 , [Sch. 11 para. 10\(c\)](#) ; S.I. 2006/2541 , art. 2 (with Sch. )
- F27** Words in s. 7(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , s. 107 , [Sch. 11 para. 10\(c\)](#) ; S.I. 2006/2541 , art. 2 (with Sch. )
- F28** Words in s. 7(5) inserted (1.4.1996) by [1995 c. 25](#) , s. 78 , [Sch. 10 para. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#) (with [ss. 7\(6\)](#) , 115 , 117 , [Sch. 8 para. 7](#) ) ; S.I. 1995/2950 , [art. 3](#)
- F29** Words in s. 7(6) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , s. 107 , [Sch. 11 para. 10\(c\)](#) ; S.I. 2006/2541 , art. 2 (with Sch. )
- F30** Words in s. 7(6) inserted (1.4.1996) by [1995 c. 25](#) , s. 78 , [Sch. 10 para. 2\(2\)\(b\)](#) (with [ss. 7\(6\)](#) , 115 , 117 , [Sch. 8 para. 7](#) ) ; S.I. 1995/2950 , [art. 3](#)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- F31** S. 7(7) inserted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , **ss. 60(3)** , [107\(3\)\(b\)](#) ; [S.I. 2006/2541](#) , [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#) )

**8** ..... **F32** **E+W**

#### Textual Amendments

- F32** S. 8 repealed and superseded by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), [s. 184\(6\)](#), [Sch. 17 Pt. I](#), **Sch. 30**

**9** **Development plans relating to National Parks.** **E+W**

- (1) In preparing a development plan, or proposals for any alterations of or additions to a development plan, for any area being or including the whole or any part of a National Park, [<sup>F33</sup>the authority or authorities who are required to prepare the plan or, as the case may be, who are entitled to alter or add to it] shall consult with [<sup>F34</sup>Natural England] and take into consideration any observations made by [<sup>F34</sup>Natural England].

<sup>F35</sup>( 2 ) .....

#### Textual Amendments

- F33** Words in s. 9(1) substituted (23.11.1996) by [1995 c. 25, s. 78](#), **Sch. 10 para. 2(3)** (with [ss. 7\(6\)](#), [115](#), [117](#), [Sch. 8 para. 7](#)); [S.I. 1995/2950](#), **art. 2**
- F34** Words in s. 9(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), [s. 107](#), **Sch. 11 para. 10(d)**; [S.I. 2006/2541](#), [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#))
- F35** S. 9(2) repealed (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), [ss. 60\(4\)](#), [107\(3\)\(b\)](#), **Schs. 12**; [S.I. 2006/2541](#), [art. 2](#) (with [Sch.](#) )

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C13** S. 9 applied (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37](#) , **s. 84(1)(b)** (with [s. 84\(4\)-\(6\)](#) ); [S.I. 2001/114](#) , **art. 2(2)(e)** ; [S.I. 2001/1410](#) , **art. 2(g)**
- C14** S. 9: power to amend conferred by [Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(2023 c. 55\)](#), **ss. 132**, [255\(3\)\(a\)](#) (with [s. 247](#))

**10** ..... **F36** **E+W**

#### Textual Amendments

- F36** S. 10 repealed by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 30**

<sup>F37</sup>**11** **E+W**

.....



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

### Textual Amendments

**F37** S. 11 repealed (1.4.1997) by 1995 c. 25, s. 120(3), **Sch. 24** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117); S.I. 1996/2560, art. 2, **Sch.**

### [<sup>F38</sup>**11A Duty of certain bodies and persons** [<sup>F39</sup>in relation] to the purposes for which National Parks are designated. **E+W**]

- (1) A National Park authority, in pursuing in relation to the National Park the purposes specified in subsection (1) of section five of this Act, shall seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park <sup>F40</sup>... and shall for that purpose co-operate with local authorities and public bodies whose functions include the promotion of economic or social development within the area of the National Park.
- [ In exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in any <sup>F41</sup>(1A) National Park in England, a relevant authority other than a devolved Welsh authority must seek to further the purposes specified in section 5(1) and if it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, must attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park.
- (1B) In exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in any National Park in England, a devolved Welsh authority must have regard to the purposes specified in section 5(1) and if it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, must attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park.]
- (2) In exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in a National Park [<sup>F42</sup>in Wales], any relevant authority shall have regard to the purposes specified in subsection (1) of section five of this Act and, if it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, shall attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park.
- [ The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about how a relevant <sup>F43</sup>(2A) authority is to comply with the duty under subsection (1A) (including provision about things that the authority may, must or must not do to comply with the duty).]
- (3) For the purposes of this section “relevant authority” means—
  - (a) any Minister of the Crown,
  - (b) any public body,
  - (c) any statutory undertaker, or
  - (d) any person holding public office.
- (4) In subsection (3) of this section—
 

“public body” includes—

  - (a) any local authority, [<sup>F44</sup>corporate joint committee,] joint board or joint committee;
  - (b) any National Park authority;

“public office” means—



**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (a) an office under Her Majesty;
- (b) an office created or continued in existence by a public general Act of Parliament; or
- (c) an office the remuneration in respect of which is paid out of money provided by Parliament.

(5) In subsection (4) of this section, “joint board” and “joint committee” mean—

- (a) a joint or special planning board for a National Park reconstituted by order under paragraph 1 or 3 of Schedule 17 to the <sup>M4</sup>Local Government Act 1972, or a joint planning board within the meaning of section 2 of the <sup>M5</sup>Town and Country Planning Act 1990;
- (b) a joint committee appointed under section 102(1)(b) of the <sup>M6</sup>Local Government Act 1972.

[ In this section, “devolved Welsh authority” has the same meaning as in the <sup>F45</sup>(5A) Government of Wales Act 2006 (see, in particular, section 157A of that Act).]

(6) In this section, “local authority”—

- (a) in relation to England, means a county council, district council or parish council;
- (b) in relation to Wales, means a county council, county borough council, <sup>F46</sup>. . . or community council.]

[<sup>F47</sup>(7) In this section, “corporate joint committee” means a corporate joint committee established by regulations made under Part 5 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F38** S. 11A added (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, ss. 62, 125(2) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7)
- F39** Words in s. 11A heading substituted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), ss. 245(3)(a), 255(9)(b) (with s. 247)
- F40** Words in s. 11A(1) repealed (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), ss. 62, 107(3)(b), Sch. 12; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2, Sch.
- F41** S. 11A(1A)(1B) inserted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), ss. 245(3)(b), 255(9)(b) (with s. 247)
- F42** Words in s. 11A(2) inserted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), ss. 245(3)(c), 255(9)(b) (with s. 247)
- F43** S. 11A(2A) inserted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), ss. 245(3)(d), 255(9)(b) (with s. 247)
- F44** Words in s. 11A(4) inserted (3.12.2021) by The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (Meaning of Public Body) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/1359), regs. 1(2), 2(2)
- F45** S. 11A(5A) inserted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), ss. 245(3)(e), 255(9)(b) (with s. 247)
- F46** Words in s. 11A(6)(b) repealed (1.4.1997) by 1995 c. 25, s. 120(3), Sch. 24 (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117); S.I. 1996/2560, art. 2, Sch.
- F47** S. 11A(7) inserted (3.12.2021) by The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (Meaning of Public Body) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/1359), regs. 1(2), 2(3)

#### Marginal Citations

- M4** 1972 c. 70.
- M5** 1990 c. 8.

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

**M6** 1972 c. 70.

## 12 Provision of accommodation, meals, refreshments, camping sites and parking places. **E+W**

- (1) A local planning authority whose area consists of or includes the whole or any part of a National Park may make arrangements for securing the [<sup>F48</sup>provision for] their area (whether by the authority or by other persons)—
- (a) of accommodation, meals and refreshments (including intoxicating liquor);
  - (b) or camping sites; and
  - (c) of parking places and means of access thereto and egress therefrom,
- and may for the purposes of such arrangements erect such buildings and carry out such work as may appear to them to be necessary or expedient:

Provided that a local planning authority shall not under this section provide accommodation, meals or refreshments except in so far as it appears to them that the facilities therefor are inadequate or unsatisfactory, either generally or as respects any description of accommodation, meals or refreshments, as the case may be.

<sup>F49</sup>(2) .....

- (3) The foregoing provisions of this section shall not authorise an authority, on land in which any other person has an interest, without his consent to do anything which apart from this section would be actionable at his suit by virtue of that interest.
- (4) A local planning authority may acquire land compulsorily for the purpose of any of their functions under this section.

### Textual Amendments

**F48** Words in s. 12(1) substituted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(4)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2**

**F49** S. 12(2) repealed (1.4.1997) by 1995 c. 25, s. 120(3), **Sch. 24** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117); S.I. 1996/2560, **art. 2, Sch.**

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C15** S. 12(1) extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **s. 12(1)(2)**

S. 12 extended (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, **ss. 68(4), 125(2)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7)

## 13 Improvement of waterways for purposes of open-air recreation. **E+W**

- (1) A local planning authority whose area consists of or includes the whole or any part of a National Park may, as respects any waterway in the Park <sup>F50</sup>..., carry out such work and do such other things as may appear to them necessary or expedient for facilitating the use of the waterway by the public for sailing, boating, bathing [<sup>F51</sup>or fishing or other forms of recreation]:

Provided that a local planning authority shall not under this section provide facilities of any description except in cases where it appears to them that the facilities of that description are inadequate or unsatisfactory.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (2) A local planning authority may, as respects any waterway in their area, enter into an agreement, on such terms as to payment or otherwise as may be specified in the agreement, with any other authority on whom powers of carrying out work are conferred in relation to the waterway by or under any enactment, for the exercise by the said other authority of any power of doing work conferred on the local planning authority by the last foregoing subsection.
- (3) Where an agreement is made under the last foregoing subsection for the exercise of any power by any such authority, other than a local planning authority, as is therein mentioned, no limitation imposed by law on the capacity of that authority by virtue of the constitution thereof shall operate so as to prevent the authority from exercising that power.
- (4) Where it appears to the Minister, as respects a waterway in the area of a local planning authority, that any power of doing work conferred on the authority by subsection (1) of this section should be exercised by any such other authority as is mentioned in subsection (2) of this section, and the local planning authority have not entered into an agreement with the said other authority under the said subsection (2), the Minister may direct that the said power shall be exercisable by the said other authority:

Provided that no direction shall be given under this subsection except after consultation with the local planning authority and the said other authority.

- (5) Before exercising any power conferred by or under this section an authority shall consult with such other authorities, being authorities which under any enactment have functions relating to the waterway in question, as the Minister may either generally or in any particular case direct.
- (6) Where any authority consulted under the last foregoing subsection objects to a proposed exercise of powers under this section, and the objection is not withdrawn, the proposal shall not be proceeded with unless on an application in that behalf specifying the proposal and the objection the Minister so directs, and subject to any conditions or modifications specified in the direction; and before giving a direction under this subsection the Minister shall afford to each of the authorities an opportunity of being heard by a person appointed by him for the purpose, and shall consider that person's report.
- (7) The foregoing provisions of this section shall not authorise an authority to do anything on land, or as respects water over land, in which any other person has an interest, if apart from this section the doing thereof would be actionable at his suit by virtue of that interest and he does not consent to the doing thereof:

Provided that this subsection shall not apply in the case of land to which, or to water over which, the public have access by virtue of an access order under Part V of this Act, but the exercise of any power under the foregoing provisions of this section as respects such land shall be subject to the provisions in that behalf of the said Part V.

- (8) A local planning authority may acquire land compulsorily for the purpose of enabling any power conferred by or under this section to be exercised.

#### Textual Amendments

**F50** Words in s. 13(1) repealed (1.4.1997) by 1995 c. 25, s. 120(3), **Sch. 24** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117); S.I. 1996/2560, art. 2, **Sch.**

**F51** Words substituted by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 12(6)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C16** S. 13: power to amend conferred by [Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(2023 c. 55\)](#), **ss. 132, 255(3)(a)** (with s. 247)
- C17** S. 13(1) extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **s. 12(6)**
- C18** S. 13(2)-(4) extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **s. 12(7)**

### 14 Acquisition by Minister of land in National Parks. **E+W**

- (1) Where, as respects any land in a National Park, the Minister is satisfied that it is expedient so to do, he may with the consent of the Treasury acquire the land by agreement, whether by way of purchase, lease or exchange.
- (2) Unless in any particular case the Minister otherwise determines, any land acquired by the Minister under this section shall be transferred to such other persons on such trusts or subject to such conditions as may appear to him expedient for securing that the land will be managed in a suitable manner for accomplishing the purposes specified in subsection (1) of section five of this Act.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of the last foregoing subsection, the transfer of land under that subsection may be on such terms as to payment or otherwise as may, with the consent of the Treasury, be provided for by the arrangements for the transfer; and where the arrangements so provide the Minister may defray or contribute to the cost of managing the land while it is managed in accordance with the trusts or conditions referred to in the last foregoing subsection.
- (4) The Minister may defray the cost of managing any land acquired by him under this section and not transferred to other persons.

## PART III **E+W+S**

### NATURE CONSERVATION

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C19** Pt. III extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **s. 15(7)**

### <sup>F52</sup> 15 Meaning of “nature reserve.” **E+W+S**

- (1) In this Part, “nature reserve” means—
  - (a) land managed solely for a conservation purpose, or
  - (b) land managed not only for a conservation purpose but also for a recreational purpose, if the management of the land for the recreational purpose does not compromise its management for the conservation purpose.
- (2) Land is managed for a conservation purpose if it is managed for the purpose of—
  - (a) providing, under suitable conditions and control, special opportunities for the study of, and research into, matters relating to the fauna and flora of Great Britain and the physical conditions in which they live, and for the study of geological and physiographical features of special interest in the area, or

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) preserving flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features of special interest in the area,  
or for both those purposes.

[<sup>F53</sup>(2A) In subsection (2)(b) the reference to preserving flora or fauna includes enabling or facilitating its recovery or increase.]

- (3) Land is managed for a recreational purpose if it is managed for the purpose of providing opportunities for the enjoyment of nature or for open-air recreation.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F52** S. 15 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 12](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F53** S. 15(2A) inserted (E.W.S) (16.8.2012) by [The Conservation of Habitats and Species \(Amendment\) Regulations 2012 \(S.I. 2012/1927\)](#), regs. 1(1), **26**; [The Conservation \(Natural Habitats, &c.\) Amendment \(Scotland\) Regulations 2012 \(S.S.I. 2012/228\)](#), regs. 1(1), 7

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C20** In s. 15 definition of "nature reserves" applied (S.) (1.4.1992) by [Natural Heritage \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 28, SIF 46:1\)](#), s. 4(7); [S.I. 1991/2633](#), art.4

[<sup>F54</sup>**15A** Meaning of [<sup>F55</sup>appropriate conservation body]. **E+W+S**

[ In this Part of this Act [<sup>F57</sup>references to the appropriate conservation body are <sup>F56</sup>(1)] references]—

- (a) in relation to land in England, to [<sup>F58</sup>Natural England ];
- (b) in relation to land in Scotland, to [<sup>F59</sup>Scottish Natural Heritage] for Scotland;  
and
- (c) in relation to land in Wales, to the [<sup>F60</sup>Countryside Council for Wales][<sup>F60</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]]

[<sup>F61</sup>(2) In this Part of this Act—

- (a) “ nature reserve agreement ” means an agreement under section 7 of the 2006 Act [<sup>F62</sup>or section 16 of the 2016 Act] for securing that land which it appears expedient in the national interest should be managed as a nature reserve shall be so managed, [<sup>F63</sup>and ]
- (b) “ the 2006 Act ” means the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. ]

[<sup>F64</sup>(c) “the 2016 Act” means the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F54** S. 15A inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 132(1)(a), [Sch. 9 para. 1\(2\)](#); [S.I. 1991/685](#), art. 3
- F55** Words in s. 15A substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 13\(5\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F56** S. 15A(1): s. 15A renumbered as s. 15A(1) (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 13\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F57** Words in s. 15A(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 13\(3\)\(a\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- F58** Words in s. 15A(1)(a) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 13\(3\)\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F59** Words in s. 15A(b) substituted (1.4.1992) by [Natural Heritage \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 28, SIF 46:1\), s. 4\(6\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)](#); S.I. 1991/2633, art. 4
- F60** Words in s. 15A(1)(c) substituted (E.W.) (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\), art. 1\(2\), Sch. 2 para. 16](#) (with Sch. 7)
- F61** S. 15A(2) inserted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 13\(4\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F62** Words in s. 15A(2)(a) inserted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- F63** Word in s. 15A(2)(a) omitted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by virtue of [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- F64** S. 15A(2)(c) inserted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)\(b\)](#)

## 16 <sup>F65</sup>**Agreements for management of nature reserves in Scotland and Wales** **E** **+W+S**

- (1) [<sup>F66</sup>[<sup>F67</sup>The [<sup>F68</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales][<sup>F67</sup>A Welsh local authority]] or Scottish Natural Heritage] may enter into an agreement with every owner, lessee and occupier of any land, being land as to which it appears to [<sup>F69</sup>the [<sup>F68</sup>[<sup>F70</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales][<sup>F70</sup>Welsh local authority]] or (as the case may be) Scottish Natural Heritage] expedient in the national interest that it should be managed as a nature reserve, for securing that it shall be so managed.

[<sup>F71</sup>(1A) The power of a Welsh local authority in subsection (1)—

- (a) is also exercisable where it appears to the authority that it is expedient in the interests of the locality that land should be managed as a nature reserve;
  - (b) is exercisable only in relation to land in the authority's area that is not held by, or managed in accordance with an agreement entered into with, the Natural Resources Body for Wales.]
- (2) Any such agreement may impose such restrictions as may be expedient for the purposes of the agreement on the exercise of rights over the land by the persons who can be bound by the agreement.
- (3) Any such agreement—
- (a) may provide for the management of the land in such manner, the carrying out thereon of such work and the doing thereon of such other things as may be expedient for the purposes of the agreement;
  - (b) may provide for any of the matters mentioned in the last foregoing paragraph being carried out, or for the cost thereof being defrayed, either by the said owner or other persons, or by [<sup>F72</sup>[<sup>F73</sup>the [<sup>F68</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales][<sup>F73</sup>a Welsh local authority]] or (as the case may be) Scottish Natural Heritage] or partly in one way and partly in another;
  - (c) may contain such other provisions as to the making of payments by [<sup>F74</sup>[<sup>F75</sup>the [<sup>F68</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales][<sup>F75</sup>a Welsh local authority]] or (as the case may be) Scottish Natural Heritage] and in particular for the payment by them of compensation for the effect of the restrictions mentioned in the last foregoing subsection, as may be specified in the agreement.
- (4) Section two of the <sup>M7</sup>Forestry Act 1947 (which empowers tenants for life and other limited owners to enter into forestry dedication covenants) shall apply to any such



**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

agreement; and where section seventy-nine of the <sup>M8</sup>Law of Property Act 1925 (which provides that unless a contrary intention is expressed the burden of a covenant runs with the land) applies, subsections (2) and (3) of section one of the said Act of 1947 (which provide for enforcement against persons other than the covenantor) shall apply to any such restrictions as are mentioned in subsection (2) of this section, but with the substitution for references to the Forestry Commissioners of references to <sup>F76</sup>[<sup>F77</sup>the]<sup>F68</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]<sup>F77</sup>a Welsh local authority]] .

(5) The following provisions shall have effect in the application of this section to Scotland:

- (a) a limited owner of land shall have power to enter into agreements under this section relating to the land;
- (b) the <sup>M9</sup>Trusts (Scotland) Act 1921, shall have effect as if among the powers conferred on trustees by section four thereof (which relates to the general powers of trustees) there were included a power to enter into agreements under this section relating to the trust estate or any part thereof;
- <sup>F78</sup>(c) an agreement under this section [to which an owner or limited owner of land or a trustee acting under paragraph (b) is a party] may be recorded in the General Register of Sasines or (as the case may be) registered in the Land Register of Scotland and, on being so recorded or registered, shall be enforceable at the instance of Scottish Natural Heritage against any person having an interest in the land and against any person deriving title from that person:

Provided that such an agreement shall not be enforceable against any third party who shall have in good faith and for value acquired right (whether title has been completed or not) to an interest in the land prior to the agreement being recorded or registered as aforesaid, or against any person deriving title from any such third party;

- (d) the expression “owner” includes any person empowered under this subsection to enter into agreements relating to land;
- (e) subsection (4) shall not apply.

<sup>F79</sup>(6) In this section a “Welsh local authority” means—

- (a) the council of a county or county borough in Wales, and
- (b) a National Park authority for a National Park in Wales.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F65** S. 16 heading substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 14\(5\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F66** Words in s. 16(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 14\(2\)\(a\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F67** Words in s. 16(1) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) (anaw 3), s. 88(2) (a), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- F68** Words in s. 16 substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013](#) (No. 755), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 17](#) (with Sch. 7)
- F69** Words in s. 16(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 14\(2\)\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F70** Words in s. 16(1) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) (anaw 3), s. 88(2) (a), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- F71** S. 16(1A) inserted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) (anaw 3), s. 88(2)(a), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(b\)](#)



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- F72** Words in s. 16(3)(b) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 14\(3\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F73** Words in s. 16(3)(b) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- F74** Words in s. 16(3)(c) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 14\(3\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F75** Words in s. 16(3)(c) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- F76** Words in s. 16(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 14\(4\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F77** Words in s. 16(4) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- F78** S. 16(5)(c) substituted (S.) (1.4.2019) by [The Forestry and Land Management \(Scotland\) Act 2018 \(Consequential Amendments\) Regulations 2019 \(S.S.I. 2019/125\), regs. 1\(2\), 2\(2\)](#)
- F79** S. 16(6) inserted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\), s. 88\(2\)\(a\), Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(e\)](#)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C21** S. 16 amended (30.1.2001) by [1981 c. 69, s. 28J\(13\)](#) (as substituted (30.1.2001) by [2000 c. 37, ss. 75\(1\), 103\(2\), Sch. 9 para. 1](#))
- C22** S. 16 modified (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(Commencement No.3 and Transitional Provisions\) Order 2006 \(S.I. 2006/2541\), art. 3\(2\), Sch. para. 3](#)

#### Marginal Citations

- M7** [1947 c. 21.](#)
- M8** [1925 c. 20.](#)
- M9** [1921 c. 58.](#)

### 17 **Compulsory acquisition of land by [<sup>F80</sup>conservation body ]for establishment of nature reserves. [E+W+S](#)**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of the next following subsection, where [<sup>F81</sup>the appropriate conservation body] are satisfied as respects any land that it is expedient in the national interest that it should be managed as a nature reserve, they may acquire the land compulsorily.
- (2) [<sup>F82</sup>the appropriate conservation body] shall not acquire any interest in land under the last foregoing subsection unless they are satisfied that they are unable, as respects that interest, to conclude on terms appearing to them reasonable an [<sup>F83</sup>nature reserve agreement or an agreement under section 16] containing such provisions as in their opinion are required for securing that the land will be satisfactorily managed as a nature reserve.

#### Textual Amendments

- F80** Words in s. 17 heading substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 16\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F81** Words in s. 17(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(a\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F82** Words in s. 17(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(a\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

**F83** Words in s. 17(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 16\(a\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

## 18 **Compulsory acquisition of land by [F84conservation body] for maintenance of nature reserves.** **E+W+S**

- (1) Where, as respects any interest in land, [F85the appropriate conservation body] have entered into [F86a nature reserve agreement or an agreement under section 16] and any breach of the agreement occurs which prevents or impairs the satisfactory management as a nature reserve of the land to which the agreement relates, then without prejudice to any other remedy [F85the appropriate conservation body] may acquire that interest compulsorily.
- (2) Such a breach shall not be treated as having occurred by virtue of any act or omission capable of remedy unless there has been default in remedying it within a reasonable time after notice given by [F87the appropriate conservation body] requiring the remedying thereof.
- (3) Any dispute arising under this section whether there has been such a breach of an agreement as aforesaid shall be determined by an arbitrator appointed by the Lord Chancellor or, in the case of a dispute relating to land in Scotland, by an arbiter appointed by the Lord President of the Court of Session.
- (4) <sup>F88</sup> . . . , at any stage of the proceedings in any arbitration under the last foregoing subsection relating to land in Scotland the arbiter may, and shall if so directed by the Court of Session, state a case for the opinion of that Court on any question of law arising in the arbitration.

### Textual Amendments

- F84** Words in s. 18 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 17\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F85** Words in s. 18(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F86** Words in s. 18(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 17\(a\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F87** Words in s. 18(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(b\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F88** Words in s. 18(4) repealed (31.1.1997) by 1996 c. 23, s. 107(2), [Sch. 4](#); S.I. 1996/3146, [art. 3](#)

## 19 **Declarations that areas are nature reserves.** **E+W+S**

- (1) A declaration by [F89the appropriate conservation body] that any land is the subject of [F90a nature reserve agreement or an agreement under section 16], or has been acquired and is held by [F89the appropriate conservation body], shall be sufficient evidence, unless the contrary is proved, that the land is subject to such an agreement or has been so acquired and is so held, as the case may be.
- (2) A declaration by [F91the appropriate conservation body] that any land which is subject to such an agreement as aforesaid, or is held by [F91the appropriate conservation body] is being managed as a nature reserve shall be conclusive of the matters declared.

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (3) It shall be the duty of [<sup>F92</sup>the appropriate conservation body], where any such declaration has been made and the agreement to which it relates ceases to be in force, or the land to which it relates ceases to be held by the [<sup>F92</sup>the appropriate conservation body] or to be managed as a nature reserve, as the case may be, to make a declaration of that fact; and any such declaration shall be conclusive of the matters declared.
- (4) [<sup>F93</sup>the appropriate conservation body] shall publish notice of any declaration under this section in such manner as appears to them best suited for informing persons concerned.
- (5) A document purporting to be certified on behalf of [<sup>F94</sup>the appropriate conservation body] to be a true copy of any declaration under this section shall be receivable in evidence and shall be deemed, unless the contrary is shown, to be such a copy.

#### Textual Amendments

- F89** Words in s. 19(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(c\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F90** Words in s. 19(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 18](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F91** Words in s. 19(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(c\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F92** Words in s. 19(3) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(c\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F93** Words in s. 19(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(c\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F94** Words in s. 19(5) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 15\(c\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C23** S. 19(4)(5) extended by [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 \(c. 69, SIF 4:5\), s. 35\(2\)](#)

## 20 Byelaws for protection of nature reserves. **E+W+S**

- (1) [<sup>F95</sup>the appropriate conservation body] may, as respects land which is being managed as a nature reserve under an agreement entered into with them or land held by them which is being managed as a nature reserve, make byelaws for the protection of the reserve:

Provided that byelaws under this section shall not have effect as respects any land in a reserve unless a declaration under the last foregoing section is in force declaring that the land is being managed as a nature reserve and notice of the declaration has been published in pursuance of that section.

- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of the last foregoing subsection, byelaws under this section—
  - (a) may provide for prohibiting or restricting the entry into, or movement within, nature reserves of persons, vehicles, boats and animals;
  - (b) may prohibit or restrict the killing, taking, molesting or disturbance of living creatures of any description in a nature reserve, the taking, destruction or disturbance of eggs of any such creature, the taking of, or interference with,

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- vegetation of any description in a nature reserve, or the doing of anything therein which will interfere with the soil or damage any object in the reserve;
- (c) may prohibit or restrict the shooting of birds or of birds of any description within such area surrounding or adjoining a nature reserve (whether the area be of land or of sea) as appears to [<sup>F96</sup>the appropriate conservation body] requisite for the protection of the reserve;
  - (d) may contain provisions prohibiting the depositing of rubbish and the leaving of litter in a nature reserve;
  - (e) may prohibit or restrict, or provide for prohibiting or restricting, the lighting of fires in a nature reserve, or the doing of anything likely to cause a fire in a nature reserve;
  - (f) may provide for the issue, on such terms and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the byelaws, of permits authorising entry into a nature reserve or the doing of anything therein which would otherwise be unlawful, whether under the byelaws or otherwise;
  - (g) may be made so as to relate either to the whole or to any part of the reserve or, in the case of byelaws made under paragraph (c) of this subsection, of any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in that paragraph, and may make different provisions for different parts thereof:

Provided that byelaws under this section shall not interfere with the exercise by any person of a right vested in him as owner, lessee or occupier of land in a nature reserve, or in the case of such land in Scotland as limited owner thereof, or with the exercise of any public right of way or of any functions of statutory [<sup>F97</sup>undertakers, of a river board or other drainage authority][<sup>F97</sup>undertakers, or an internal drainage board] or a district board for a fishery district within the meaning of the <sup>M10</sup>Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act 1862, or of the Commissioners appointed under the <sup>M11</sup>Tweed Fisheries Act 1857. [<sup>F98</sup>or with the running of a telecommunications code system or the exercise of any right conferred by or in accordance with the telecommunications code on the operator of any such system.]

- (3) Where the exercise of any right vested in a person, whether by reason of his being entitled to any interest in land or by virtue of a licence or agreement, is prevented or hindered by the coming into operation of byelaws under this section, he shall be entitled to receive from [<sup>F99</sup>the appropriate conservation body] compensation in respect thereof.

#### Textual Amendments

- F95** Words in s. 20(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(d\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F96** Words in s. 20(2)(c) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(d\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F97** Words from “undertakers” to “board” substituted (E.W.) for words from “undertakers” to “drainage authority” by Water Act 1989, (c. 15, SIF 130), ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)–(10), 190, 193(1), Sch. 25 para. 13(1), Sch. 26 paras. 3(1)(2), 17, 40(4), 57(6), 58
- F98** Words inserted by [Telecommunications Act 1984](#) (c. 12, SIF 96), [Sch. 4 para. 28\(1\)](#)
- F99** Words in s. 20(3) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(d\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

<b>Modifications etc. (not altering text)</b>	
<b>C24</b>	S. 20 amended by <a href="#">British Telecommunications Act 1981 (c. 38, SIF 96)</a> , s. 1(2), <b>Sch. 3 para. 10(2)(a) (6)</b> , s. 20(2)(3) extended by <a href="#">Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (c. 69, SIF 4:5)</a> , <b>s. 35(4)</b>
<b>C25</b>	S. 20(2)(3) applied (30.1.2001) by <a href="#">1981 c. 69, s. 28R(2)</a> (as substituted (30.1.2001) by <a href="#">2000 c. 37, ss. 75(1), 103(2)</a> , <b>Sch. 9 para. 1</b> )
<b>Marginal Citations</b>	
<b>M10</b>	<a href="#">1862 c. 97.(52:2)</a>
<b>M11</b>	<a href="#">1857 c. cxlviii.(52:2)</a>

21      **Establishment of nature reserves by local authorities.**      **E+W+S**

- (1) The council of a county or county borough [<sup>F100</sup>or in Scotland [<sup>F101</sup>a [<sup>F102</sup>general or district] planning authority]] shall have power to provide, or secure the provision of, nature reserves on any land in their area (not being land held by, or managed in accordance with an agreement entered into with [<sup>F103</sup>the appropriate conservation body]) as to which it appears to the council expedient that it should be managed as a nature reserve.
- (2) ..... <sup>F104</sup>
- (4) The foregoing provisions of this Part of this Act shall apply to the provision of nature reserves by local authorities under this section with the substitution for references to [<sup>F105</sup>the appropriate conservation body]<sup>F106</sup>, the [<sup>F107</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]] or Scottish Natural Heritage] of references to the local authority and as if the<sup>F108</sup> references in subsection (1) of sections sixteen and seventeen respectively of this Act to the national interest included references]]<sup>F108</sup> reference in subsection (1) of section 17 of this Act to the national interest were a reference] to the interests of the locality.
- (5) A local authority may, as respects any land which is being managed as a nature reserve by the authority, enter into an agreement with any drainage authority for the exercise by the drainage authority, on such terms as to payment or otherwise as may be specified in the agreement, of any power of doing work exercisable by the local authority under the foregoing provisions of this section.
- (6) A local authority shall exercise their functions under this Part of this Act in consultation with [<sup>F109</sup>the appropriate conservation body].
- (7) ..... <sup>F110</sup>

<b>Textual Amendments</b>	
<b>F100</b>	Words inserted by <a href="#">Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (c. 65, SIF 81:2)</a> , <b>Sch. 27 Pt. II para. 100</b>
<b>F101</b>	Words substituted (S.) by <a href="#">Local Government and Planning (Scotland) Act 1982 (c. 43, SIF 81:2)</a> , <b>s. 10</b>
<b>F102</b>	Words in s. 21(1) repealed (S.) (1.4.1996) by <a href="#">1994 c. 39, s. 180(2)</a> , <b>Sch. 14</b> ; S.I. 1996/323, art. 4(1)(d), <b>Sch. 2</b>
<b>F103</b>	Words in s. 21(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by <a href="#">Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16)</a> , s. 107, <b>Sch. 11 para. 15(e)</b> ; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
<b>F104</b>	S. 21(2)(3) repealed by <a href="#">Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1)</a> , <b>Sch. 30</b>
<b>F105</b>	Words in s. 21(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by <a href="#">Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16)</a> , s. 107, <b>Sch. 11 para. 19</b> ; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- F106**

Words in s. 21(4) omitted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\)](#), s. 88(2)(a), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- F107**

Words in s. 21(4) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 18](#) (with [Sch. 7](#))
- F108**

Words in s. 21(4) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by virtue of [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\)](#), s. 88(2)(a), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- F109**

Words in s. 21(6) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(e\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with [Sch.](#))
- F110**

S. 21(7) repealed by [Local Government \(Scotland\) Act 1973 \(c. 65\)](#), [Sch. 29](#)
- Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C26**

S. 21 amended (E.W.) by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), [Sch. 17 para. 34](#)

**C27**

S. 21 extended (E.W.) (19.9.1995) by [1995 c. 25](#), ss. 70, 125, [Sch. 9 para. 3](#) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, [Sch. 8 para. 7](#))  
s. 21 extended (S.)(8.9.2000) by [2000 asp 10](#), s. 9, [Sch. 3 para. 2](#) (with s. 32); [S.I. 2000/312](#), [art. 2](#)
- 22

Power of drainage authorities to do work in nature reserves. **E+W+S**
- Where [<sup>F111</sup>the appropriate conservation body], a local authority or any other person enter into an agreement with a drainage authority for the doing by that authority of any work on land managed as a nature reserve by, or under an agreement with, [<sup>F111</sup>the appropriate conservation body] or a local authority, no limitation imposed by law on the capacity of the drainage authority by virtue of the constitution thereof shall operate so as to prevent the drainage authority carrying out the agreement.
- Textual Amendments**

**F111**

Words in s. 22 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(f\)](#); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with [Sch.](#))

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C28**

S. 22 amended (E.W.) by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), [Sch. 17 para. 34](#)

**C29**

S. 22 extended (E.W.) (19.9.1995) by [1995 c. 25](#), ss. 70, 125(2), [Sch. 9 para. 3](#) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, [Sch. 8 para. 7](#))  
s. 22 extended (S.)(8.9.2000) by [2000 asp 10](#), s. 9, [Sch. 3 para. 2](#) (with s. 32); [S.I. 2000/312](#), [art. 2](#)
- 23

.....<sup>F112</sup> **E+W+S**
- Textual Amendments**

**F112**

[S. 23](#) repealed and superseded by [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 \(c. 69, SIF 4:5\)](#), s. 28(13), [Sch. 17 Pt. I](#)
- 24

.....<sup>F113</sup> **E+W+S**



*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

Textual Amendments

F113 S. 24 repealed by Science and Technology Act 1965 (c. 4, SIF 57), Sch. 4

25 ..... F114 E+W+S

Textual Amendments

F114 S. 25 repealed by Nature Conservancy Council Act 1973 (c. 54, SIF 46:1), Sch. 4

26 Application of Part III to Scotland. E+W+S

In the application of this Part of this Act to Scotland the expressions “owner” and “limited owner” have the same meanings as in section three of the <sup>M12</sup>Forestry Act 1947.

Marginal Citations

M12 1947 c. 21.

PART IV E+W

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

*Ascertainment of footpaths, bridleways and certain other highways*

27–35 ..... F115 E+W

Textual Amendments

F115 Ss. 27–35 repealed by Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (c. 69, SIF 4:5), ss. 55(1), 73, Sch. 17 Pt. II

36 ..... F116 E+W

Textual Amendments

F116 S. 36 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), Sch. 30

37 ..... F117 E+W



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

#### Textual Amendments

**F117** S. 37 repealed by [Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980](#) (c. 65, SIF 81:1,2) Sch. 34 pt. III

**38** ..... **F118** **E+W**

#### Textual Amendments

**F118** S. 38 repealed by [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](#) (c. 69, SIF 4:5), ss. 55(1), 73, **Sch. 17 Pt. II**

**39–50** ..... **F119** **E+W**

#### Textual Amendments

**F119** Ss. 39–50, 56, 58 repealed by [Highways Act 1959](#) (c. 25), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963](#) (c. 33, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 6 para. 70**

### *Long-Distance Routes*

**[<sup>F120</sup>50A Application of Part IV of this Act in Wales. **E+W****

- (1) The provisions of this Part of this Act shall, subject to the next following subsection, apply to land in Wales as they apply to land in England.
- (2) Where a provision of this Part of this Act confers a function on the [<sup>F121</sup>Natural England] as respects England (or land of any description in England), the [<sup>F122</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] shall have the corresponding function as respects Wales (or land of a similar description in Wales).]

#### Textual Amendments

**F120** S. 50A inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#) (c. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 130(1), **Sch. 8 para 1(6)**; S.I. 1991/865, **art. 3**

**F121** Words in s. 50A(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 20**; S.I. 2006/2541, **art. 2** (with Sch.)

**F122** Words in s. 50A(2) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013](#) (No. 755), **art. 1(2)**, **Sch. 2 para. 19** (with Sch. 7)

**51** **General provisions as to long-distance routes. **E+W****

- (1) Where it appears to [<sup>F123</sup>Natural England], as respects any part of England <sup>F124</sup> . . . , that the public should be enabled to make extensive journeys on foot or on horseback [<sup>F125</sup>or on a bicycle [<sup>F126</sup>not being a mechanically propelled vehicle]] along a particular route, being a route which for the whole or the greater part of its length does not pass along roads mainly used by vehicles, [<sup>F123</sup>Natural England] may prepare and submit to the Minister a report under this section.

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (2) A report under this section shall contain a map showing the route, defining those parts thereof over which there exists a public right of way, and indicating in each case the nature of that right; and the report shall set out such proposals as [<sup>F127</sup>Natural England] may think fit—
- (a) for the maintenance or improvement of [<sup>F128</sup>any highway along which the route passes and which is a public path, a restricted byway or a way shown in a definitive map and statement as a restricted byway or byway open to all traffic;]
  - (b) for the provision and maintenance of such new public paths as may be required for enabling the public to journey along the route;
  - (c) for the provision and operation of ferries where they are needed for completing the route; and
  - (d) for the provision of accommodation, meals and refreshments along the route.
- (3) A report under this section may also include such recommendations as [<sup>F129</sup>Natural England] may think fit for the restriction of traffic on existing highways along which the route passes.
- (4) Before preparing a report under this section [<sup>F130</sup>Natural England] shall consult every [<sup>F131</sup>National Park authority,] joint planning board, county council, <sup>F132</sup> . . . and county district council through whose [<sup>F131</sup>Park or] area the route passes; and it shall be the duty of every such [<sup>F131</sup>authority,] board or council to furnish to [<sup>F130</sup>Natural England] such information as [<sup>F130</sup>Natural England] may reasonably require for the purposes of the report.
- (5) A report under this section shall contain an estimate, in such form as the Minister may require, of the capital outlay likely to be incurred in carrying out any such proposals contained therein as are mentioned in subsection (2) of this section, of the annual cost of maintaining any [<sup>F133</sup>existing highways falling within paragraph (a) of that subsection] and any new public paths provided for by the proposals, and of the annual expenditure likely to be incurred by local authorities [<sup>F134</sup>and National Park authorities] in connection with the provision and operation of ferries, and the provision of accommodation, meals and refreshments, so far as those matters are provided for by the proposals.
- [<sup>F135</sup>(6) In this section—
- “definitive map and statement” has the same meaning as in Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; and
  - “restricted byway” has the same meaning as in Part II of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F123** Words in s. 51(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(e\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F124** Words in s. 51(1) repealed (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#) (c. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 130(1), [Sch. 8 para. 1\(7\)](#); S.I. 1991/685, art. 3
- F125** Words inserted by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 21(2)
- F126** Words in s. 51(1) substituted (30.1.2001) by 2000 c. 37, ss. 67, 103(2), [Sch. 7 para. 1](#)
- F127** Words in s. 51(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(e\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- F128** Words in s. 51(2)(a) substituted (2.5.2006 for E. 11.5.2006 for W.) by Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37), s. 103(3), **Sch. 5 para. 12(2)**; S.I. 2006/1172, **art. 2(g)(iv)**; S.I. 2006/1279, **art. 2(g)**
- F129** Words in s. 51(3) substituted (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 10(e)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F130** Words in s. 51(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 10(e)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F131** Words in s. 51(4) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(5)(a)(b)(c)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2**
- F132** Words repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 30**
- F133** Words in s. 51(5) substituted (2.5.2006 for E. 11.5.2006 for W.) by Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37), s. 103(3), **Sch. 5 para. 12(3)**; S.I. 2006/1172, **art. 2(g)(iv)**; S.I. 2006/1279, **art. 2(g)**
- F134** Words in s. 51(5) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(5)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2**
- F135** S. 51(6) inserted (2.5.2006 for E. 11.5.2006 for W.) by Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37), s. 103(3), **Sch. 5 para. 12(4)**; S.I. 2006/1172, **art. 2(g)(iv)**; S.I. 2006/1279, **art. 2(g)**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C30** S. 51 excluded (24.9.2014) by The Thames Water Utilities Limited (Thames Tideway Tunnel) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/2384), art. 1, **Sch. 19 Pt. 1 para. 12**
- C31** S. 51(2)(a)(5) extended by Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (c. 69, SIF 4:5), **ss. 54(6)(7)**

## 52 Approval of proposals relating to a long-distance route. **E+W**

- (1) On the submission to the Minister of a report under the last foregoing section, the Minister shall consider any proposals contained in the report under subsection (2) of that section and may either approve the proposals, with or without modifications, or reject the proposals:

Provided that where the Minister does not propose to approve the proposals as set out in the report he shall, before coming to a determination as to what action to take under this subsection, consult with [<sup>F136</sup>Natural England] and such other authorities and persons as he may think fit.

- (2) As soon as may be after the Minister determines under the last foregoing subsection either to approve any proposals, with or without modifications, or to reject them, he shall notify his determination to [<sup>F137</sup>Natural England] and to every [<sup>F138</sup>National Park authority] joint planning board, county council, . . . <sup>F139</sup> and county district council whose [<sup>F138</sup>Park or] area is traversed by the route to which the report relates.
- (3) Proposals approved by the Minister under subsection (1) of this section, either as originally set out in the report or as modified by the Minister, are hereinafter referred to as “approved proposals relating to a long-distance route.”

#### Textual Amendments

- F136** Words in s. 52(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 10(f)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F137** Words in s. 52(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 10(f)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F138** Words in s. 52(2) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(6)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2**
- F139** Words repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 30**

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C32 S. 52 excluded (24.9.2014) by [The Thames Water Utilities Limited \(Thames Tideway Tunnel\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/2384\)](#), art. 1, [Sch. 19 Pt. 1 para. 12](#)

53 Ferries for purposes of long-distance routes. **E+W**

- (1) Where approved proposals relating to a long-distance route include proposals for the provision and operation of a ferry, the authority who are the highway authority for either or both of the highways to be connected by the ferry—
- (a) shall have power to provide and operate the ferry and to carry out such work and do all such things as appear to them expedient for the purpose of operating the ferry;
  - (b) may . . . <sup>F140</sup> agree with any person or body of persons for the provision and operation of the ferry by him or them and for the making by the highway authority of such contributions as may be specified in the agreement:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall—

- (i) be construed as conferring on such an authority any exclusive right to operate a ferry;
- (ii) authorise the doing of anything which apart from this subsection would be actionable by any person by virtue of his having an exclusive right to operate a ferry, unless he consents to the doing thereof;
- (iii) authorise the doing of anything on land, or as respects water over land, in which any other person has an interest, if apart from this subsection the doing thereof would be actionable at his suit by virtue of that interest and he does not consent to the doing thereof;

and before carrying out any work in the exercise of powers conferred by this subsection, being work on the bank or bed of any waterway, the highway authority shall consult with such authorities having functions relating to the waterway as the Minister may either generally or in any particular case direct.

- (2) A highway authority may acquire land compulsorily for the purpose of any of their functions under paragraph (a) of the last foregoing subsection.
- (3) . . . . . <sup>F141</sup>

Textual Amendments

F140 Words repealed by [Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980 \(c. 65, SIF 81:1,2\)](#) s. 1(7), Sch. 7 para. 1, Sch. 34 Pt. VII

F141 S. 53(3)(4) repealed by [Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980 \(c. 65, SIF 81:1,2\)](#) s. 1(7), Sch. 7 para. 1, Sch. 34 Pt. VII

54 Accommodation, meals and refreshments along long-distance routes. **E+W**

- (1) Where approved proposals relating to a long-distance route include proposals for the provision, along any part of the route, of accommodation, meals and refreshments, any local planning authority through whose area, or in the neighbourhood of whose area, that part of the route passes shall have power to make such arrangements under this section as are requisite for giving effect to the last-mentioned proposals.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (2) The arrangements which may be made by an authority under this section are arrangements for securing, at places in their area convenient for persons using the part of the route in question, the provision, whether by the authority or other persons, of accommodation, meals and refreshments (including intoxicating liquor):

Provided that an authority shall not under this section provide accommodation, meals or refreshments except in so far as it appears to them that the facilities therefor are inadequate or unsatisfactory, either generally or as respects any description of accommodation, meals or refreshments, as the case may be.

- (3) For the purposes of arrangements under this section a local planning authority may erect such buildings and carry out such work as may appear to them to be necessary or expedient.
- (4) The foregoing provisions of this section shall not authorise an authority, on land in which any other person has an interest, without his consent to do anything which apart from this section would be actionable at his suit by virtue of that interest.
- (5) A local planning authority may acquire land compulsorily for the purpose of any of their functions under this section.

## 55 Variation of approved proposals. **E+W**

- (1) Where proposals relating to a long-distance route have been approved by the Minister under section fifty-two of this Act, [<sup>F142</sup>Natural England] may from time to time prepare and submit to the Minister a report proposing any such variation of the approved proposals as [<sup>F142</sup>Natural England] may think fit.
- (2) Where, as respects any proposals approved as aforesaid, it appears to the Minister, after consultation with [<sup>F143</sup>Natural England], expedient that the proposals should be varied in any respect and [<sup>F143</sup>Natural England] have not submitted to the Minister a report proposing that variation, the Minister may direct that the proposals shall be so varied.
- (3) Subsection (4) of section fifty-one of this Act, and subsections (1) and (2) of section fifty-two thereof, shall with the necessary modifications apply to a report or direction under this section; and subsection (5) of the said section fifty-one shall with the necessary modifications apply to any such report.
- (4) Where the Minister approves, with or without modifications, any proposals contained in a report under subsection (1) of this section, or gives a direction under subsection (2) of this section, the proposals for the variation of which the report was made or direction given shall thereafter have effect subject to the provisions of the report or direction; and references in this Act to approved proposals relating to a long-distance route shall be construed accordingly.

### Textual Amendments

**F142** Words in s. 55(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(g\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**F143** Words in s. 55(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(g\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C33** S. 55 excluded (24.9.2014) by [The Thames Water Utilities Limited \(Thames Tideway Tunnel\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/2384\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 19 Pt. 1 para. 12**
- C34** S. 55 excluded (7.12.2022) by [The A417 Missing Link Development Consent Order 2022 \(S.I. 2022/1248\)](#), arts. 1, 3 (with art. 4)

### [<sup>F144</sup>55A Proposals relating to the English coastal route **E+W**

- (1) Pursuant to the coastal access duty, Natural England may prepare and submit a report under section 51 containing proposals for a route (whether or not the requirements of section 51(1) are satisfied).
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) it is immaterial whether the route or any part of it is already a route in approved proposals relating to a long-distance route.
- (3) In subsections (4) and (5) “preliminary activity” means activity which Natural England considers would facilitate the preparation by it of a report under section 51 pursuant to the coastal access duty.
- (4) Where Natural England considers it necessary or expedient for preliminary activity to be carried out as respects any land, it must—
  - (a) consider whether it would be appropriate for the access authority in relation to that land to carry out any of the preliminary activity, and
  - (b) if it concludes that it would be so appropriate, take all reasonable steps to enter into an agreement with the access authority for that purpose.
- (5) An access authority may, as respects any land in its area, enter into an agreement with Natural England under which the access authority undertakes to carry out preliminary activity.
- (6) In this section “the coastal access duty” means the duty imposed on Natural England and the Secretary of State by section 296(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

#### Textual Amendments

- F144** [Ss. 55A-55J](#) inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by [Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 \(c. 23\)](#), **ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d)** (with [s. 308](#))

### 55B Route subject to erosion etc **E+W**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a report under section 51 prepared pursuant to the coastal access duty.
- (2) Where Natural England considers that the area through which the route passes is an area to which subsection (3) applies, the report may set out proposals for the route, or any part of it, to be determined at any time in accordance with provision made in the proposals (rather than as shown on a map).
- (3) This subsection applies to an area if it is or may be—
  - (a) subject to significant coastal erosion or encroachment by the sea, or



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- (b) subject to significant physical change due to other geomorphological processes.
- (4) The provision made by virtue of subsection (2) may, in particular, provide for the route to be determined by reference to the edge of a cliff or boundary of a field (as it exists from time to time).
- (5) Where the report contains proposals under subsection (2), the map included in the report in accordance with section 51(2) must show the route as determined, at the time the report is prepared, in accordance with those proposals.
- (6) Natural England must consult the Environment Agency before exercising its powers under subsection (2) in respect of an area which is or may be—
  - (a) subject to significant coastal erosion or encroachment by the sea, or
  - (b) subject to significant physical change due to other geomorphological processes in relation to which the Agency has functions.

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** [Ss. 55A-55J](#) inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by [Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 \(c. 23\)](#), [ss. 302\(1\)](#), [324\(1\)\(c\)](#), [324\(1\)\(d\)](#), [324\(2\)\(d\)](#) (with [s. 308](#))

### 55C Alternative routes **E+W**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a report under section 51 prepared pursuant to the coastal access duty.
- (2) The report may include, in relation to the route (“the ordinary route”) or any part of it, a proposal under subsection (3) or (4).
- (3) A proposal under this subsection is a proposal for an alternative route which is to operate as a diversion from the ordinary route, or part, during one or both of the following—
  - (a) any specified period (or periods), and
  - (b) any period during which access to the ordinary route or part is excluded by reason of a direction under Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the CROW Act (exclusion or restriction of access).
- (4) A proposal under this subsection is a proposal for an alternative route which is to operate as an optional alternative to the ordinary route, or part, during any period for which the ordinary route, or part, might reasonably be regarded as unsuitable for use by reason of—
  - (a) flooding,
  - (b) the action of the tide,
  - (c) coastal erosion or encroachment by the sea, or
  - (d) the effect of any other geomorphological process.
- (5) In subsection (3)(a) “specified” means—
  - (a) specified in, or determined in accordance with, the proposal, or
  - (b) determined in accordance with the proposal by—
    - (i) a person specified in the proposal, or



*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (ii) a person determined in accordance with the proposal, details of whom are notified to Natural England in accordance with the proposal.
- (6) Sections 51(2) and 55B apply in relation to an alternative route as they apply in relation to the ordinary route.

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** *Ss. 55A-55J* inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by *Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009* (c. 23), **ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d)** (with s. 308)

### **55D Coastal margin** **E+W**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a report prepared under section 51 pursuant to the coastal access duty.
- (2) The proposals set out in the report may include—
  - (a) a proposal for any part of the landward boundary of the relevant coastal margin to coincide with a physical feature identified in the proposal,
  - (b) where those proposals include an alternative route, a proposal for any part of the landward or seaward boundary of the alternative route strip to coincide with a physical feature so identified, or
  - (c) a proposal for the landward or seaward boundary of any area excluded from any description of excepted land to coincide with a physical feature so identified.
- (3) The report must contain—
  - (a) a map showing the landward boundary of the relevant coastal margin, or
  - (b) a description of that boundary which is sufficient to identify the relevant coastal margin.
- (4) Where a map is contained in a report pursuant to subsection (3)(a), Natural England must provide a person with a relevant interest in affected land, on request, with a copy of that map.
- (5) The report must set out such proposals (if any) as Natural England considers appropriate as to the directions to be made by it under Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the CROW Act for the exclusion or restriction of the right of access that would arise under section 2(1) of that Act in relation to any land if the proposals in the report were to be approved.
- (6) Before preparing the report, Natural England must (in addition to complying with section 51(4))—
  - (a) take reasonable steps to consult persons with a relevant interest in affected land,
  - (b) consult any body of a kind mentioned in section 51(4) in whose Park or area affected land is situated (but which is not required to be consulted under section 51(4)),
  - (c) consult each London borough council for an area in which affected land is situated,
  - (d) consult each local access forum for an area in which affected land is situated,

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (e) consult the Secretary of State in relation to any interests of defence or national security which may be affected by the proposals which Natural England is minded to include in the report,
  - (f) consult the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England in relation to any interests in the preservation of any monument, structure or other thing, mentioned in section 26(3)(b) of the CROW Act which may be affected by those proposals, and
  - (g) consult the Environment Agency in relation to any interests in flood defence, or in the management of the effects of coastal erosion or encroachment by the sea, which may be affected by those proposals.
- (7) A body within subsection (6)(b), (c) or (d) must provide Natural England with such information as it may reasonably require for the purposes of the report.
- (8) Where the Secretary of State is consulted under subsection (6)(e), the Secretary of State must—
- (a) provide Natural England with such information as it may reasonably require as to any exclusion or restriction of the right of access to affected land under section 2(1) of the CROW Act which the Secretary of State proposes to make provision for under section 28 of that Act (defence and national security), and
  - (b) notify Natural England if the Secretary of State is of the opinion that this information, or any part of it, ought not to be disclosed by it on the grounds of the public interest in defence and national security.
- (9) Subject to subsection (10), the report must contain such of the information provided under subsection (8)(a) as Natural England considers relevant for the purposes of the report.
- (10) The report may not contain information which Natural England has been notified under subsection (8)(b) ought not to be disclosed by it.

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** *Ss. 55A-55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)*

## 55E Consideration of reports made pursuant to the coastal access duty **E+W**

Schedule 1A contains—

- (a) provision about the procedure to be followed when a report is submitted under section 51 pursuant to the coastal access duty;
- (b) provision which, in relation to such reports, supplements the provision made by section 52.

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** *Ss. 55A-55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)*

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

## 55F Directions under Part 1 of the CROW Act **E+W**

- (1) This section applies where approved proposals relating to a long-distance route contain proposals as regards a direction to be made by Natural England under Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the CROW Act for the exclusion or restriction of the right of access that would otherwise arise under section 2(1) of that Act.
- (2) Natural England must make the direction in accordance with those proposals.
- (3) Subsection (2) is without prejudice to any power Natural England may have to revoke or vary the direction after it is made.

### Textual Amendments

**F144** Ss. 55A-55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)

## 55G Ferries for the purposes of the English coastal route **E+W**

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) pursuant to the coastal access duty, approved proposals relating to a long-distance route include proposals for the provision and operation of a ferry, and
  - (b) an approach route to the ferry is not a highway.
- (2) The reference in section 53(1) to the highway authority for either or both of the highways to be connected by the ferry is to be read as including the highway authority in whose area the approach route is situated.
- (3) In this section “approach route”, in relation to a ferry, means a part of the English coastal route to be connected to another part of that route by the ferry.

### Textual Amendments

**F144** Ss. 55A-55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)

## 55H Variation pursuant to the coastal access duty **E+W**

- (1) In the case of a report made by Natural England under section 55(1) pursuant to the coastal access duty—
  - (a) the procedural requirements apply with the necessary modifications, and
  - (b) section 55(3) does not apply.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide—
  - (a) that, in relation to a direction under section 55(2) pursuant to the coastal access duty, the procedural requirements apply with the modifications specified in the regulations, and
  - (b) that section 55(3) does not apply in relation to such a direction.
- (3) The Secretary of State may not make a direction under section 55(2) pursuant to the coastal access duty at a time when there are no regulations under subsection (2) in force.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

(4) For the purposes of this section—

“modify” includes amend, add to or repeal, and “modification” is to be construed accordingly;

“the procedural requirements” means sections 51(4) and (5), 52(1) and (2), 55D(6) to (10) and 55E, Schedule 1A and regulations under that Schedule.

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** Ss. 55A–55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)

### 55I Temporary diversions **E+W**

- (1) This section applies where Natural England or the Secretary of State gives a direction by virtue of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the CROW Act which excludes the right of access under section 2(1) of that Act, for any period (“the exclusion period”), in relation to any land over which (or any part of which) the English coastal route or any official alternative route passes.
- (2) This section does not apply if the direction by virtue of that Chapter is expressed to have effect indefinitely.
- (3) Natural England may give a direction under this section specifying a route (“the temporary route”) which is to apply for the duration of the exclusion period or such part of it as is specified in the direction.
- (4) The temporary route specified by Natural England may pass only—
  - (a) over land which is access land for the purposes of Part 1 of the CROW Act,
  - (b) over land which, for the purposes of section 1(1) of that Act, is treated by section 15(1) of that Act as being accessible to the public apart from that Act,
  - (c) along a highway, or
  - (d) over any other land the owner of which has agreed to the temporary route (so far as it passes over that land).
- (5) Natural England must consult the Environment Agency before giving a direction where the temporary route specified passes over land of a type described in subsection (4)(d).
- (6) A direction under this section—
  - (a) must be in writing, and
  - (b) may be revoked or varied by a subsequent direction under this section.

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** Ss. 55A–55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)

### 55J Interpretation of sections 55A to 55J **E+W**

- (1) In sections 55A to 55I, Schedule 1A and this section—

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

“access authority” has the same meaning as in Part 1 of the CROW Act;

“affected land” means—

- (a) land over which the route, or any alternative route, to which the proposals relate passes, and
- (b) any other land which—
  - (i) is relevant coastal margin, or an alternative route strip in relation to such an alternative route, and
  - (ii) is not excepted land;

“alternative route” is to be construed in accordance with section 55C;

“alternative route strip”, in relation to an alternative route, means—

- (a) in a case where the proposal for the alternative route has not yet been approved under section 52, the land which would become coastal margin during the operation of that route if the proposals in the report were to be so approved (without modifications), and
- (b) in the case of an official alternative route, the land which would become coastal margin during the operation of that route;

“the coastal access duty” has the meaning given by section 55A;

“coastal margin” has the same meaning as in Part 1 of the CROW Act;

“the CROW Act” means the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37);

“the English coastal route” means the route secured pursuant to the coastal access duty;

“excepted land” has the same meaning as in Part 1 of the CROW Act;

“local access forum” means a local access forum established under section 94 of the CROW Act;

“official alternative route” means an alternative route which is contained in approved proposals relating to a long-distance route;

“owner”, in relation to land, means the person who holds an estate in fee simple absolute in possession in the land;

“relevant coastal margin”, in relation to proposals, means—

- (a) in a case where the proposals have not yet been approved under section 52, land which would become coastal margin if the proposals were to be approved (without modifications) under that section (disregarding the alternative route strip in relation to any alternative route), and
- (b) in a case where the proposals have been so approved (with or without modifications), land which becomes coastal margin as a result of the proposals having been so approved (disregarding the alternative route strip in relation to any official alternative route).

(2) For the purposes of sections 55A to 55I and Schedule 1A, a person has a relevant interest in land if the person—

- (a) is the owner of the land,
- (b) holds a term of years absolute in the land, or
- (c) is in lawful occupation of the land.

(3) Any power conferred by sections 55A to 55I or Schedule 1A to make regulations includes—

- (a) power to make different provision for different cases, and

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) power to make incidental, consequential, supplemental or transitional provision or savings.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F144** Ss. 55A-55J inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 302(1), 324(1)(c), 324(1)(d), 324(2)(d) (with s. 308)

#### Minor Amendments of Law relating to Rights of Way

56 ..... <sup>F145</sup> **E+W**

#### Textual Amendments

**F145** Ss. 39–50, 56, 58 repealed by Highways Act 1959 (c. 25), Sch. 25 and London Government Act 1963 (c. 33, SIF 81:1), Sch. 6 para. 70

#### 57 Penalty for displaying on footpaths notices deterring public use. **E+W**

- (1) If any person places or maintains, on or near any way shown on a definitive map, or on a revised map prepared in definitive form, as a public path or [<sup>F146</sup>restricted byway], a notice containing any false or misleading statement likely to deter the public from using the way, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [<sup>F147</sup>level 1 on the standard scale].
- (2) The court before whom a person is convicted of an offence under the last foregoing subsection may, in addition to or in substitution for the imposition of a fine, order him to remove the notice in respect of which he is convicted within such period, not being less than four days, as may be specified in the order; and if he fails to comply with the order he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two pounds for each day on which the failure continues.
- (3) It shall be the duty of a highway authority to enforce the provisions of this section as respects any public path, [<sup>F148</sup>restricted byway or byway open to all traffic], for which they are the highway authority; and no proceedings in respect of an offence under those provisions shall be brought except by the authority required by this subsection to enforce those provisions as respects the path or road in question [<sup>F149</sup>or by the council of the district [<sup>F150</sup>or, where they are not the highway authority, the council of the Welsh county or county borough] in which the notice is placed or maintained].

[<sup>F151</sup>(4) In this section—

“byway open to all traffic” has the same meaning as in Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981;

“restricted byway” has the same meaning as in Part II of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.]

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

Textual Amendments

F146

Words in s. 57(1) substituted (2.5.2006 for E. 11.5.2006 for W.) by Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37), s. 103(3), Sch. 5 para. 13(2); S.I. 2006/1172, art. 2(g)(iv); S.I. 2006/1279, art. 2(g)

F147

Words substituted by virtue of Criminal Justice Act 1982 (c. 48, SIF 39:1), ss. 38, 46

F148

Words in s. 57(3) substituted (2.5.2006 for E. 11.5.2006 for W.) by Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37), s. 103(3), Sch. 5 para. 13(3); S.I. 2006/1172, art. 2(g)(iv); S.I. 2006/1279, art. 2(g)

F149

Words added by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), Sch. 21 para. 97

F150

Words in s. 57(3) inserted (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 20(4), Sch. 6 para. 15(1) (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), Sch. 17 para. 22(1), 23(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 3, Sch. 1

F151

S. 57(4) inserted (2.5.2006 for E. 11.5.2006 for W.) by Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (c. 37), s. 103(3), Sch. 5 para. 13(4); S.I. 2006/1172, art. 2(g)(iv); S.I. 2006/1279, art. 2(g)

58

.....

F152

E+W

Textual Amendments

F152

Ss. 39–50, 56, 58 repealed by Highways Act 1959 (c. 25), Sch. 25 and London Government Act 1963 (c. 33, SIF 81:1), Sch. 6 para. 70

PART V E+W

ACCESS TO OPEN COUNTRY

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C35

Pt. V restricted and (in respect of ss. 64-82) amended by London Government Act 1963 (c. 33, SIF 81:1), s. 60(5); restricted by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 16(7), amended *ibid.*, s. 16(4)  
Pt. V restricted (*prosp.*) by 2000 c. 37, ss. 46(2), 103(3) (with s. 43)

59 Provision for public access to open country. E+W

- (1) The provisions of this Part of this Act shall have effect for enabling the public to have access for open-air recreation to open country—

(a) to which the provisions of the next following section are applied by an agreement under this Part of this Act (hereinafter referred to as an “access agreement”) or by an order under this Part of this Act (hereinafter referred to as an “access order”),  
(b) acquired under this Part of this Act for the purpose of giving to the public access thereto.
- (2) In this Part of this Act the expression “open country” means any area appearing to the authority with whom an access agreement is made or to the authority by whom an access order is made or by whom the area is acquired, as the case may be, to consist wholly or predominantly of mountain, moor, heath, down, cliff or foreshore (including any bank, barrier, dune, beach, flat or other land adjacent to the foreshore).



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C36** Definition of “open country” extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 16(1)(2)(6)

**60 Rights of public where access agreement, order in force. E+W**

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this Part of this Act, where an access agreement or order is in force as respects any land a person who enters upon land comprised in the agreement or order for the purpose of open-air recreation without breaking or damaging any wall, fence, hedge or gate, or who is on such land for that purpose after having so entered thereon, shall not be treated as a trespasser on that land or incur any other liability by reason only of so entering or being on the land:

Provided that this subsection shall not apply to land which for the time being is excepted land as hereinafter defined.

- (2) Nothing in the provisions of the last foregoing subsection shall entitle a person to enter or be on any land, or to do anything thereon, in contravention of any prohibition contained in or having effect under any enactment.
- (3) An access agreement or order may specify or provide for imposing restrictions subject to which persons may enter or be upon land by virtue of subsection (1) of this section, including in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of this subsection, restrictions excluding the land or any part thereof at particular times from the operation of the said subsection (1); and that subsection shall not apply to any person entering or being on the land in contravention of any such restriction or failing to comply therewith while he is on the land.
- (4) Without prejudice to the provisions of the last foregoing subsection, subsection (1) of this section shall have effect subject to the provisions of the Second Schedule to this Act as to the general restrictions to be observed by persons having access to land by virtue of the said subsection (1).
- (5) For the purposes of this Part of this Act, the expression “excepted land” means land which for the time being is of any of the following descriptions, that is to say—
- (a) agricultural land, other than such land which is agricultural land by reason only that it affords rough grazing for livestock;
  - (b) land comprised in a declaration for the time being in force under subsection (2) of section nineteen of this Act or that subsection as applied by section twenty-one of this Act;
  - (c) land covered by buildings or the curtilage of such land;
  - (d) land used for the purpose of a park, garden or pleasure ground, being land which was so used at the date when the relevant access agreement or order was made;
  - (e) land used for the getting of minerals by surface working (including quarrying), land used for the purposes of a railway (including a light railway) or tramway, or land used for the purposes of a golf course, racecourse or aerodrome;
  - (f) land (not falling within the foregoing paragraphs of this subsection) covered by works used for the purposes of a statutory undertaking [<sup>F153</sup> or a telecommunications code system] or the curtilage of such land;

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (g) land as respects which development is in course of being carried out which will result in the land becoming such land as is specified in paragraph (c), (e) or (f) of this subsection;
- (h) land to which section one hundred and ninety-three of the <sup>M13</sup>Law of Property Act 1925, for the time being applies:

Provided that land which is for the time being comprised in an access agreement or order shall not become excepted land by reason of any development carried out thereon, or any change of use made thereof, if the development or change of use is one for which under [<sup>F154</sup>the <sup>M14</sup>Town and Country Planning Act 1971] planning permission is required and either that permission has not been granted or any condition subject to which it was granted has been contravened or has not been complied with.

Textual Amendments

F153

Words inserted by [Telecommunications Act 1984 \(c. 12, SIF 96\)](#), [Sch. 4 para. 28\(2\)](#)

F154

Words substituted by virtue of [Town and Country Planning Act 1971 \(c. 78, SIF 123:1\)](#), [Sch. 24 para. 2](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C37

[S. 60\(5\)\(a\)](#) excluded by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), [ss. 16\(5\), 17\(2\)](#)

Marginal Citations

M13

[1925 c. 20.](#)

M14

[1971 c. 78.\(123:1\)](#)

F155

61

.....

E+W

Textual Amendments

F155

[S. 61](#) repealed (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37, ss. 46\(1\)\(b\), 102, Sch. 16 Pt. I; S.I. 2001/114, art. 2\(2\)\(a\)\(k\); S.I. 2001/1410, art. 2\(a\)\(m\)](#)

F156

62

.....

E+W

Textual Amendments

F156

[S. 62](#) repealed (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37, ss. 46\(1\)\(b\), 102, Sch. 16 Pt. I; S.I. 2001/114, art. 2\(2\)\(a\)\(k\); S.I. 2001/1410, art. 2\(a\)\(m\)](#)

F157

63

.....

E+W

Textual Amendments

F157

[S. 63](#) repealed (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37, ss. 46\(1\)\(b\), 102, 103\(3\), Sch. 16 Pt. I; S.I. 2001/114, art. 2\(2\)\(a\)\(k\); S.I. 2001/1410, art. 2\(a\)\(m\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

## 64 Access agreements. **E+W**

- (1) A local planning authority may . . . <sup>F158</sup> make an access agreement with any person having an interest in land, being open country, in the area of the authority whereby the provisions in that behalf of this Part of this Act shall apply to the land.
- (2) An access agreement may provide for the making of payments by the local planning authority of either or both of the following descriptions, that is to say in consideration of the making of the agreement and by way of contribution towards expenditure incurred by the person making the agreement in consequence thereof.
- (3) An access agreement may be made either irrevocably or subject to such provisions for revocation or variation as may be specified in the agreement.
- (4) Section two of the <sup>M15</sup>Forestry Act 1947 (which empowers tenants for life and other limited owners to enter into forestry dedication covenants) shall apply to an access agreement as it applies to such a covenant.

<sup>F159</sup>(5) . . . . .

- (6) Where an access agreement is made with one or some, but not all, of the persons having interests in the land to which the agreement relates, the provisions of this Part of this Act shall apply as respects the interests of the persons with whom the agreement is made, and shall continue so to apply notwithstanding any change in the persons entitled thereto, but shall not, as against the person for the time being entitled to any other interest in the land, operate so as to prejudice his rights as owner of that interest, or impose any restriction on him or confer any right against him.

### Textual Amendments

**F158** Words repealed by [Local Government Act 1974 \(c. 7, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 8**

**F159** [S. 64\(5\)](#) repealed (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 21**, **Sch. 12**; [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with **Sch.**)

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C38** [S. 64](#) amended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), s. 18.

**C39** [S. 64\(5\)](#) applied (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37](#), s. 84(1)(c) (with s. 84(4)-(6)); [S.I. 2001/114](#), art. 2(2)(e); [S.I. 2001/1410](#), art. 2(g)

### Marginal Citations

**M15** [1947 c. 21](#).

## 65 Access orders. **E+W**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the authority by whom an access order may be made shall be the local planning authority in whose area the land in question is situated; and an order made by such an authority shall be submitted to the Minister and shall not have effect unless confirmed by him.
- (2) An access order shall not be made as respects any land—
  - (a) if an access agreement or access agreements are in force with respect thereto which in the opinion of the authority having power to make such an order adequately secure to the public access to the land for open-air recreation;

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (b) where such an agreement or agreements are not in force with respect to the land, unless it appears to the said authority impracticable to secure the making of such an agreement or agreements.
- (3) An access order shall contain a map, on such scale as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister, defining in such manner as may be so prescribed—
  - (a) the land comprised in the order, and
  - (b) so far as appears practicable to the authority making the order, any of the said land which, in the opinion of that authority, is at that time excepted land otherwise than by reason of being agricultural land;
 and the order shall also include such descriptive matter, if any, as may be so prescribed or as may appear to the said authority to be requisite for the purposes of the order.
- (4) The provisions in that behalf of the First Schedule to this Act shall apply to the making, confirmation, coming into operation and validity of access orders.
- (5) Before making an access order in respect of land in a National Park [<sup>F160</sup>in England], the local planning authority shall consult with [<sup>F161</sup>Natural England]; and where it appears to [<sup>F161</sup>Natural England] desirable that such an order should be made in respect of land in a National Park [<sup>F160</sup>in England], and the local planning authority have not made an order in respect thereof, [<sup>F161</sup>Natural England] may request the authority to make an order accordingly.
- [<sup>F162</sup>( 5A ) The preceding subsection shall apply in relation to National Parks in Wales, and the [<sup>F163</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales], as it applies in relation to National Parks in England, and [<sup>F164</sup>Natural England]]
- (6) ..... <sup>F165</sup>

#### Subordinate Legislation Made

**P1** S. 65 : power exercised by [S.I. 1950/1066](#)

#### Textual Amendments

- F160** Words in s. 65(5) inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#) , s. 130(1) , [Sch. 8 para. 1\(9\)](#) ; [S.I. 1991/685](#) , [art. 3](#)
- F161** Words in s. 65(5) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , s. 107 , [Sch. 11 para. 10\(h\)](#) ; [S.I. 2006/2541](#) , [art. 2 \(with Sch. \)](#)
- F162** S. 65(5A) inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#) , s. 130(1) , [Sch. 8 para. 1\(9\)](#) ; [S.I. 1991/685](#) , [art. 3](#)
- F163** Words in s. 65(5A) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#) , [art. 1\(2\)](#) , [Sch. 2 para. 20](#) (with [Sch. 7](#) )
- F164** Words in s. 65(5A) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#) , s. 107 , [Sch. 11 para. 10\(h\)](#) ; [S.I. 2006/2541](#) , [art. 2 \(with Sch. \)](#)
- F165** S. 65(6) repealed by [Local Government Act 1974 \(c. 7, SIF 81:1\)](#) , [Sch. 8](#)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C40** S. 65(3) extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#) , [s. 17\(6\)](#)
- C41** [S. 65\(3\)](#) functions transferred (W.) (24.5.2018) by [The Welsh Ministers \(Transfer of Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/644\)](#) , [arts. 1\(1\), 6\(a\)](#)
- C42** S. 65(5)(5A) applied (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37](#) , [s. 84\(1\)\(d\)](#) (with [s. 84\(4\)-\(6\)](#) ); [S.I. 2001/114](#) , [art. 2\(2\)\(e\)](#) ; [S.I. 2001/1410](#) , [art. 2\(g\)](#)

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

**66 Effect of access agreement or order on rights and liabilities of owners. E+W**

- (1) A person interested in any land comprised in an access agreement or order, not being excepted land, shall not carry out any work thereon whereby the area to which the public are able to have access by virtue of the agreement or order is substantially reduced:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall affect the doing of anything whereby any land becomes excepted land.

- (2) The operation of subsection (1) of section sixty of this Act in relation to any land shall not increase the liability, under any enactment not contained in this Act or under any rule of law, of a person interested in that land or adjoining land in respect of the state thereof or of things done or omitted thereon.
- (3) Any restriction arising under a covenant or otherwise as to the use of any land comprised in an access agreement or order shall have effect subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, and any liability of a person interested in such land in respect of such a restriction shall be limited accordingly.
- (4) For the purposes of any enactment or rule of law as to the circumstances in which the dedication of a highway or the grant of an easement may be presumed, or may be established by prescription, the use by the public or by any person of a way across land at any time while it is comprised in an access agreement or order shall be disregarded.

**67 Provision of means of access. E+W**

- (1) An access agreement or order may make such provision as appears expedient for the purposes of the agreement or order for securing that sufficient means of access to the land comprised in the agreement or order will be available for the public while the land is so comprised.
- (2) Provision made by an access agreement or order by virtue of this section may be provision for any one or more of the following matters, that is to say—
- (a) the improvement or repair of any means of access to the land in existence at the time when the agreement or order is made;
  - (b) the construction of new means of access to the land;
  - (c) the imposition of restrictions on the destruction, removal, alteration or stopping-up of any means of access to the land, or the doing of any thing whereby the use of any such means of access by the public would be impeded; and
  - (d) the maintenance of any such means of access to the land as are mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection.
- (3) No provision made by an access order by virtue of this section shall—
- (a) apply to land which is for the time being excepted land, or authorise or require any thing to be done in relation to such land or any means of access thereto;
  - (b) affect the doing of any thing whereby any land becomes excepted land; or
  - (c) require, or authorise any person to require, any work to be carried out at the expense of any person interested in the land except as hereafter in this section expressly provided.
- (4) Where it appears to the local planning authority in whose area the land is situated that any work is required for giving effect to any such provision of an access agreement

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

or order as is specified in paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) of subsection (2) of this section, the authority may agree with the owner and occupier of the land as to the carrying out of the work, and where it is agreed that it shall be carried out otherwise than by the authority may defray the cost of the carrying out thereof, or may contribute such part of that cost as may be specified in the agreement.

(5) If, in a case falling within the last foregoing subsection—

- (a) the local planning authority are unable to make an agreement, or
- (b) the owner or occupier fails to carry out within a reasonable period any work which he has agreed to carry out,

the local planning authority, after giving to the owner and the occupier not less than fourteen days' notice of their intention so to do, may take all necessary steps for carrying out the work; and where, in a case to which paragraph (b) of this subsection applies, the agreement provided that the authority should contribute part of the cost of carrying out the work, the authority may recover the amount of any expenses reasonably incurred by them in carrying out the work, reduced by their contribution under the agreement, from the person by whom under the agreement the cost (apart from the authority's contribution) of carrying out the work would fall to be borne.

(6) In this section the expression “means of access,” in relation to land, means any opening in a wall, fence or hedge bounding the land or any part thereof, with or without a gate, stile or other works for regulating passage through the opening, any stairs or steps for enabling persons to enter on the land or any part thereof, or any bridge, stepping stone or other works for crossing a watercourse, ditch or bog on the land or adjoining the boundary thereof.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C43 S. 67 amended by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), [Sch. 17 para. 37](#)

## 68 Power of local planning authority to enforce access. **E+W**

- (1) If any person contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) of the last but one foregoing section, or any such restriction as is specified in paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of the last foregoing section, the local planning authority whose area comprises the land in respect of which the contravention occurred may serve on that person a notice requiring him, within such period as may be specified in the notice, to carry out such work so specified as may appear to the authority to be requisite for remedying the contravention, being work for restoring or re-opening any means of access to the land or for providing new means of access thereto.
- (2) If within the period specified in a notice under the last foregoing subsection the person on whom the notice is served fails to comply therewith, the local planning authority may take all necessary steps for carrying out the work specified in the notice and may recover from that person any expenses reasonably incurred by them in carrying it out.
- (3) Any person on whom a notice is served under subsection (1) of this section may, at any time within the period specified in the notice for carrying out the work so specified, complain to a court of summary jurisdiction for the <sup>F166</sup>petty sessions area] or place within which the land to which the notice relates is situated—
  - (a) that the period specified as aforesaid is too short;



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) that the work specified in the notice, or some of that work, is not requisite for remedying the contravention;
  - (c) that he has not contravened the provisions or restriction in question; or
  - (d) that the work specified in the notice, or so much of the work as is requisite for remedying the contravention, has been carried out.
- (4) Any summons issued on a complaint under the last foregoing subsection shall be served on the local planning authority.
- (5) On any such complaint the court, if satisfied of the grounds of the complaint, may—
  - (a) extend the period within which the work was required to be carried out by the notice, or
  - (b) quash the notice as respects the whole or any part of the work specified therein, as the nature of the complaint may require; but if not so satisfied shall dismiss the complaint.
- (6) The Summary Jurisdiction Acts shall apply to the proceedings on any complaint under this section; and any person aggrieved by the decision of the court on any such complaint may appeal to [<sup>F167</sup>the Crown Court].
- (7) Where a complaint is made to the court under this section, the time between the making of the complaint and the determination thereof, and of any appeal from that determination, shall be disregarded in determining the period within which, in accordance with the notice, the work specified therein is to be carried out.

#### Textual Amendments

**F166** Words in s. 68(3) substituted (27.9.1999) by 1999 c. 22, ss. 76(2), 108(3)(c), Sch. 10 para. 19 (with Sch. 14 para. 7(2))

**F167** Words substituted by virtue of Courts Act 1971 (c. 23, SIF 37), s. 56(2) Sch. 9 Pt. I

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C44** S. 68 amended by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), Sch. 17 para. 37

### [<sup>F168</sup>69 Suspension of public access to avoid exceptional risk of fire. **E+W**

[ If, upon application made to the county planning authority by any person interested <sup>F169</sup>(1) in land comprised in an access agreement or order, or by any other person appearing to that authority to have a sufficient interest in the matter, the authority are satisfied that, by reason of any exceptional conditions of weather for the time being prevailing, access by the public to the land or any part of it is likely to result in fires occurring on it, the authority may direct that subsection (1) of section 60 of this Act shall not have effect in relation to the land during such period as may be specified in the direction.]

[<sup>F170</sup>(2) The reference in subsection (1) of this section to the county planning authority is to be read, in relation to Wales, as a reference to the local planning authority.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F168** S. 69 substituted by Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (c. 65, SIF 81:1,2) s. 1(3) Sch. 3 para. 7

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

**F169** S. 69(1) renumbered (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 20(4), **Sch. 6 Pt. II para. 15(2)** (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5)) Sch. 17 para. 22(1), 23(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 3, **Sch. 1**

**F170** S. 69(2) added (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 20(4), **Sch. 6 Pt. II para. 15(2)** (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), Sch. 17 para. 22(1), 22(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 3, **Sch. 1**

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C45** S. 69: functions transferred (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, **ss. 68(2)(a)(8)**, 125(2) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7)

**70 Compensation for access orders. E+W**

Where the value of the interest of any person in land is depreciated in consequence of the coming into operation of an access order, then subject to the following provisions of this Part of this Act the local planning authority in whose area the land comprised in the order is situated shall pay to that person compensation equal to the amount of the depreciation:

Provided that nothing in this section shall confer on a person a right to compensation for depreciation of an interest in land, being land which is not comprised in the order or if so comprised is excepted land, except if and in so far as either—

- (a) it is held with land comprised in the order which is not excepted land, or
- (b) the omission of any other person to exclude the public from the land comprised in the order or any part thereof would have been actionable at the suit of the first-mentioned person if the access order had not come into operation.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C46** S. 70 amended by **Local Government Act 1972** (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 17 para. 37**.

**71 Compensation to be assessed with regard to effect of first five years of access. E+W**

- (1) For the purpose of enabling compensation under the last foregoing section to be assessed in the light of experience gained of the actual effect on land of the coming into operation of access orders, any such compensation shall not, save as hereinafter provided, be claimed or payable before the expiration of a period of five years from the coming into operation of the order giving rise to the compensation (in this and the next following section referred to as “the relevant order”).
- (2) Nothing in the last foregoing subsection shall be construed as requiring such compensation to be assessed as at a date later than the date of the coming into operation of the relevant order; but in calculating the compensation it shall be assumed that, on a sale at that date of the interest in respect of which the compensation is claimed, the purchaser would have had knowledge—
  - (a) of the actual effect during the said period, on the land in which the said interest subsists and the use of that land, of the coming into operation of the relevant order;
  - (b) of the fact and date of any revocation or variation during that period of the relevant order;
  - (c) of the fact and date of any changes during that period, as respects land comprised in the relevant order, from or to excepted land.

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- (3) If during the said period of five years the relevant order is revoked, or varied so as to exclude from the operation thereof any land not being excepted land, the foregoing provisions of this section shall thereupon have effect, so far as concerns any claim for compensation in respect of the operation of the relevant order as respects the said land, as if for any reference to the said period of five years there were substituted a reference to the period beginning with the coming into operation of the relevant order and ending with the said revocation or variation.
- (4) Where at different times within a period of five years two or more parcels of land become comprised in access orders, and any person has an interest in each of those parcels, then, with the consent of every person having an interest in each of the parcels other than the one first so comprised, the foregoing provisions of this section shall apply in relation to each of the last mentioned parcels with the substitution for any reference to the period of five years from the coming into operation of the order by virtue of which that parcel became so comprised as aforesaid of a reference to a period of five years from the coming into operation of the order by virtue of which the first of the parcels became so comprised.

## 72 Claims for compensation and interest. **E+W**

- (1) Any person claiming to be entitled to an interest in land in respect of the depreciation of which compensation will become payable under the last but one foregoing section may apply to the local planning authority by whom the compensation will be payable to record his claim; and where an application is duly made under this subsection the authority shall record the claim accordingly in such manner as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister.
- (2) An application under the last foregoing subsection shall be made in such manner and within such period (not being less than three months) after the date when the relevant order came into operation as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister, and shall be accompanied by such particulars of the interest in land in respect of which it is made as may be so prescribed:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall authorise the imposition of any requirement that an applicant under subsection (1) of this section shall state the amount of the compensation.

- (3) Within such period as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister (not being less than three months) after the end of the period after which under the last foregoing section compensation may be claimed, any person who has applied under subsection (1) of this section for the recording of a claim to compensation, or any person claiming under him in respect of that compensation, may apply to the local planning authority, in such manner as may be so prescribed, for the payment of the compensation.
- (4) An application under the last foregoing subsection shall state the amount of compensation claimed by the applicant; and regulations of the Minister made for the purposes of this subsection may require the application to be accompanied by such evidence of the title of the applicant to the compensation as may be prescribed by the regulations.
- (5) Any compensation payable under the last but one foregoing section shall become due when, on an application for the payment thereof duly made under subsection (3) of this section, the amount of the compensation has been agreed or, in default of agreement,

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

has been determined in manner hereinafter provided; and any such compensation shall be payable with interest, at such rate as may be so prescribed as aforesaid, from the date on which the relevant order came into operation to the date at which the compensation is paid.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C47** [S. 72](#) functions transferred (W.) (24.5.2018) by [The Welsh Ministers \(Transfer of Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/644\)](#), arts. 1(1), **6(b)**

### 73 **Payments on account in cases of special hardship.** **E+W**

- (1) At any time during the period after which, under the last but one foregoing section, compensation may be claimed in respect of the coming into operation of an order, a person claiming to be entitled to such compensation may apply to the local planning authority for a payment on account of the compensation on the ground of special circumstances . . . <sup>F171</sup>; and if the authority are satisfied that such circumstances exist they shall make to him a payment on account of the compensation of such amount as they may determine.
- (2) Any person aggrieved by the refusal of a local planning authority to make a payment on account under the last foregoing subsection, or by their determination thereunder of the amount of the payment to be made to him, may appeal to the Minister; and the Minister, after affording to the said person and to the authority an opportunity of being heard by a person appointed by the Minister for the purpose, may either confirm the decision of the authority or direct that they shall make a payment on account of such amount as appears to the Minister to be just.

#### Textual Amendments

**F171** Words repealed by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), [Sch. 5](#)

### 74 **Application to waterways in National Parks.** **E+W**

The foregoing provisions of this Part of this Act shall apply to waterways in a National Park as those provisions apply to open country.

### 75 **Exercise of powers under s. 13 as respects open country and waterways comprised in access orders.** **E+W**

- (1) An access order, whether made in respect of open country or in respect of a waterway, may specify work to be carried out (either at one time or from time to time) on land comprised in the order in the exercise of the powers conferred by section thirteen of this Act.
- (2) An authority proposing, in the exercise of the said powers, to carry out any work on land comprised in an access order, whether the work is specified in the order or not, shall give to the owner and occupier of the land not less than fourteen days' notice of their intention so to do, specifying the work to be carried out.
- (3) Where the work specified in a notice given under the last foregoing subsection is not work specified in the access order, then if before the expiration of the notice the

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

owner or occupier of the land serves notice of objection on the authority, the authority shall not carry out the work except in accordance with the provisions of the two next following subsections.

- (4) An authority on whom notice of objection has been served under the last foregoing subsection shall afford to the objector an opportunity of being heard by a person appointed by them for the purpose and shall then determine either—
- (a) not to carry out the work to which the objection relates, or
  - (b) to carry out the work, either as originally proposed or with such modifications as the authority may determine,

and shall serve notice of their determination on the objector; and where the authority determine as mentioned in paragraph (b) of this subsection, they may proceed with the work in accordance with the determination at any time after the expiration of fourteen days from the date on which notice of the determination is served on the objector:

Provided that if the objector serves notice of appeal under the next following subsection the authority shall not proceed with the work except in accordance with the provisions of that subsection.

- (5) Any person aggrieved by a determination of an authority under the last foregoing subsection may within the period of fourteen days therein mentioned serve notice of appeal against the determination on the Minister and on the authority; and where notice of appeal is served under this subsection the Minister, after affording to the appellant and to the authority an opportunity of being heard by a person appointed by him for the purpose, shall either direct that the authority shall be at liberty to carry out the work (whether as specified in the notice given under subsection (2) of this section or subject to such modifications or conditions as the Minister may think fit) or shall direct the authority not to carry out the work.
- (6) Any power conferred by paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of this section or by the last foregoing subsection to modify the work specified in a notice given under subsection (2) of this section shall not be exercised so as to affect land not affected by the notice.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C48** S. 75 amended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), s. 12(6)

**76 Acquisition by local authorities of land for public access. E+W**

- (1) Where it appears to a local planning authority, as respects any open country in their area, other than excepted land,—
- (a) that it is requisite that the public should have access thereto for open-air recreation; and
  - (b) that in the circumstances it is expedient that such access thereto should be secured by the acquisition of the land by the local planning authority,
- the authority may acquire the land compulsorily.

In this subsection the expression “excepted land” includes, in relation to any compulsory purchase, land such that if an access agreement or order had been made at the time when the compulsory purchase order was confirmed the land would by virtue

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

of paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section sixty of this Act have been excepted land for the purposes of the access agreement or order.

- (2) Where, in connection with the acquisition of any land under the last foregoing subsection it appears to the local planning authority that the proper exercise of their functions under this section will be substantially prejudiced unless other land surrounded by the first-mentioned land, or contiguous or adjacent thereto, is acquired therewith, the powers conferred by the last foregoing subsection shall extend to the acquisition of that other land.
- (3) A local planning authority may carry out on land acquired by them for the purposes of this section, and for the time being held by them for those purposes, such work as they may consider requisite for providing convenient means of access to the land or otherwise for the said purposes.
- (4) While land acquired by a local planning authority under this section is held by them for the purposes thereof, it shall be the duty of the authority so to manage the land as to give to the public access for open-air recreation to so much thereof as appears to the authority to be practicable, having regard to the nature of the different parts of the land, to anything done thereon which may result in danger to the public or to persons employed thereon unless public access to the land or to adjoining land is restricted, and to all other relevant circumstances.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C49** [S. 76](#): power to amend conferred by [Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(2023 c. 55\)](#), [ss. 132](#), [255\(3\)\(a\)](#) (with [s. 247](#))

## 77 Acquisition by Ministers of land for public access. **E+W**

- (1) Where it appears to the Minister, as respects any open country in a National Park, not being excepted Land,—
  - (a) that it is requisite that the public should have access thereto for open-air recreation; and
  - (b) that in the circumstances it is expedient that such access thereto should be secured by the acquisition of the land by him,

the Minister may, with the consent of the Treasury, acquire the land by agreement, whether by way of purchase, lease or exchange, or acquire the land compulsorily.

In this subsection the expression “excepted land” includes, in relation to any compulsory purchase, land such that if an access agreement or order had been made at the time when the compulsory purchase order was confirmed the land would by virtue of paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section sixty of this Act have been excepted land for the purposes of the access agreement or order.

- (2) Subsection (2) of the last foregoing section shall apply, in relation to the acquisition of land under the last foregoing subsection, but with the substitution for references to the local planning authority of references to the Minister.
- (3) The provisions of subsections (2) to (4) of section fourteen of this Act shall apply to land acquired by the Minister under this section, with the substitution, for the reference in the said subsection (2) to the accomplishment of the purposes therein mentioned, of a reference to the securing of public access for open-air recreation to so much of



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

the land as appears to the Minister to be practicable, having regard to the matters mentioned in subsection (4) of the last foregoing section.

(4) ..... <sup>F172</sup>

(5) [<sup>F173</sup>The Secretary of State], may carry out on land acquired by him for the purposes of this section, and for the time being held by him for those purposes, such work as he may consider requisite for providing convenient means of access to the land or otherwise for the said purposes, or may arrange for any such work to be carried out by persons to whom the land is transferred.

#### Textual Amendments

**F172** S. 77(4) repealed by [Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 \(c. 65, SIF 81:1,2\)](#), **Sch. 34 Pt. XIII**

**F173** Words substituted by [Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 \(c. 65, SIF 81:1,2\)](#), **Sch. 23 para. 2(2)**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C50** S. 77: power to amend conferred by [Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(2023 c. 55\)](#), **ss. 132, 255(3)(a)** (with s. 247)

## 78 Maps of land subject to public access. **E+W**

- (1) A local planning authority whose area comprises any land—
- which is subject to an access agreement or order, or
  - has been acquired under either of the two last foregoing sections and is for the time being held for the purpose for which it was acquired,
- shall prepare and keep up to date a map, on such scale as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister, defining in such manner as may be so prescribed—
- the land subject to the agreement or order or the land acquired and held as aforesaid, as the case may be;
  - in the case of land subject to such an agreement or order, any land comprised therein which, in the opinion of the authority, is for the time being excepted land, otherwise than by reason of being agricultural land, and which in their opinion it is practicable to define on the map;
  - in the case of land acquired and held as aforesaid, any land comprised therein from which, for the purpose of avoiding danger to the public or to persons employed thereon, or because it is excepted land, or for any other reason, the public are excluded, and which in their opinion it is practicable so to define.
- (2) An authority who are required by the last foregoing subsection to prepare and keep up to date any map shall, so long as they are required so to do, have copies of the map available for inspection by the public at such places as the authority may determine; and the authority may, if they think fit, display, at places where the public obtain access to the land to which the map relates—
- reproductions of the map on an appropriate scale,
  - notices specifying any restrictions on access to the land or any part thereof, whether the restrictions have effect by virtue of any of the provisions of this Part of this Act or otherwise.

*Changes to legislation:* National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

.....

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**  
**C51** [S. 78](#) extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **s. 17(6)**  
**C52** [S. 78\(1\)](#) functions transferred (W.) (24.5.2018) by [The Welsh Ministers \(Transfer of Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/644\)](#), arts. 1(1), **6(c)**

79 ..... <sup>F174</sup> **E+W**

.....

**Textual Amendments**  
**F174** [S. 79](#) repealed by [Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 \(c. 65, SIF 81:1,2\)](#), **Sch. 34 Pt. III**

80      **Provisions as to danger areas. <sup>E+W</sup>**

- (1) The authority making an access agreement or order shall so delimit the land to which the agreement or order applies as to exclude all land which, by reason of anything done on other land contiguous or adjacent thereto, it appears to the authority expedient to exclude for the purpose of avoiding danger to the public or to persons employed on any of the said land.
- (2) Where, while an access agreement or order is in force, the authority by whom the agreement or order was made are satisfied, as respects any land to which the agreement or order applies, that by reason of anything done or proposed to be done on that land or on other land contiguous or adjacent thereto it is expedient for the purpose aforesaid that the first-mentioned land should be excluded from the operation of the agreement or order, the authority shall vary the agreement or order so as to exclude that land.
- (3) The fact that an access agreement is expressed to be irrevocable shall not prevent its variation in pursuance of the last foregoing subsection; and where the concurrence of any party to an access agreement other than the said authority, or of the successor in title to his interest, cannot be obtained to the variation of the agreement in pursuance of that subsection, the said authority may by order . . . <sup>F175</sup> vary the agreement.
- (4) A local planning authority shall have power, as respects any land to which paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section seventy-eight of this Act applies, or as respects land held by the authority to which paragraph (b) of that subsection applies, to take such steps and carry out such work (including the erection and maintenance of fences or notices) as appear to them requisite for protecting the public from any source of danger on the land or on adjoining land.
- (5) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of subsection (2) of section sixty-six of this Act, the application of section sixty thereof to any land shall not, in relation to any factory, magazine, store or premises already established, constitute the land an open place of resort for the public, or a public place, for the purposes of the <sup>M16</sup>Explosives Acts 1875 <sup>M17</sup> and 1923, or any order made or licence granted thereunder.
- (6) Notwithstanding anything in the said subsection (2) of section sixty-six of this Act, the application of the said section sixty to any land shall, in relation to any factory, magazine, store or premises subsequently established, constitute the land such a place as aforesaid for the purposes of the said Acts or any such order or licence.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

#### Textual Amendments

**F175** Words repealed by [Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 \(c. 65, SIF, 81:1, 2\)](#), **Sch. 34 Pt. III**

#### Marginal Citations

**M16** [1875 c. 17](#).

**M17** [1923 c. 17](#).

### 81 **Boundary notices.** **E+W**

A local planning authority shall have power to erect and maintain notices indicating the boundaries of land comprised in an access agreement or order and of excepted land.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C53** [S. 81](#) amended by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 17 para. 37**

### 82 **Power of local planning authority to contribute to work carried out by other persons.** **E+W**

A local planning authority shall have power, as respects any land in their area which is subject to an access agreement or order, to defray or contribute towards, or to undertake to defray or contribute towards, expenditure incurred or to be incurred in relation to the land by any person interested therein in taking such steps or carrying out such work as is mentioned in subsection (4) of the last but one foregoing section, or in erecting and maintaining such notices as are mentioned in the last foregoing section.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C54** [S. 82](#) amended by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 17 para. 37**

### 83 **Repeal of 2 & 3 Geo. 6. c. 30.** **E+W**

The Access to Mountains Act, 1939, is hereby repealed.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C55** The text of s. 83 is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

## PART VI **E+W+S**

### GENERAL, FINANCIAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY

### 84 ..... <sup>F176</sup> **E+W+S**

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

### Textual Amendments

**F176** S. 84 repealed by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **Sch. 5**

### General powers and duties of Commission

## 85 General duty of [<sup>F177</sup>Natural England and the [<sup>F178</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]] to advise on questions relating to natural beauty. **E+W**

Without prejudice to [<sup>F179</sup>their respective duties] relating to National Parks, it shall be the duty of [<sup>F180</sup>Natural England][<sup>F181</sup>and the [<sup>F178</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]]—

- (a) ..... <sup>F182</sup>
- (b) in circumstances where it appears to the Minister and to [<sup>F180</sup>Natural England], or, as the case may be, to the Minister and to the [<sup>F178</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales], desirable that their assistance should be generally available, to inquire into and report on such questions referred to them by any other body of persons or person;
- (c) to bring to the attention of the Minister or of local planning authorities the effect on the natural beauty of such areas or places as aforesaid of developments, or developments of any class, which appear to [<sup>F180</sup>Natural England][<sup>F183</sup>(as respects England) or to the [<sup>F178</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] (as respects Wales)] to be likely to be prejudicial thereto.

### Textual Amendments

**F177** Words in s. 85 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 22**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**F178** Words in s. 85 substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 21** (with Sch. 7)

**F179** Words in s. 85 substituted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 130(1), **Sch. 8 para. 1(10)(a)**; S.I. 1991/685, art. 3

**F180** Words in s. 85 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 10(i)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**F181** Words in s. 85 inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 130(1), **Sch. 8 para. 1(10)(b)**; S.I. 1991/685, art. 3

**F182** S. 85(a) repealed by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **Sch. 5**

**F183** Words in s. 85(c) inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43, SIF 46:4\)](#), s. 130(1), **Sch. 8 para. 1(10)(d)**; S.I. 1991/685, art. 3

## 86 Information services to be provided by [<sup>F184</sup>Natural England]. **E+W+S**

- (1) It shall be the duty of [<sup>F185</sup>Natural England] to take such steps as appear to them expedient for securing that persons interested—
  - (a) will be informed of the situation and extent of, and means of access to, National Parks, other areas, being areas of outstanding natural beauty, and long-distance routes for which proposals under section fifty-one of this Act have been approved, and the accommodation and facilities available for

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- persons wishing to visit National Parks and such other areas or persons wishing to use such routes;
- (b) will be able to learn about the history, natural features, flora and fauna of National Parks and the objects of architectural, [<sup>F186</sup>archaeological] or historical interest therein and the opportunities for recreation available therein, and that suitable methods of publicity are used for the prevention of damage in National Parks and such other areas as aforesaid and otherwise for encouraging a proper standard of behaviour on the part of persons visiting National Parks and such other areas; and the said methods shall include the preparation and publication of a code of conduct for the guidance of persons visiting the countryside.
- (2) Without prejudice to the provisions of the last foregoing subsection, [<sup>F187</sup>Natural England] may for the purposes thereof procure the production and sale to the public of books, guides and maps, the exhibition of posters and other advertisements, the giving of lectures and the provision and exhibition of cinematograph films.
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that the steps mentioned in subsection (1) of this section include the making of contributions towards expenses incurred by other bodies of persons.

#### Textual Amendments

- F184** Words in s. 86 substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 23](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F185** Words in s. 86(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(j\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F186** Word inserted by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), [s. 21\(4\)](#)
- F187** Words in s. 86(2) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(j\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C56** S. 86 extended by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), [s. 12\(1\)](#)

[<sup>F188</sup>**86A Information services to be provided by [<sup>F189</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales].** **E+W+S**

The provisions of section eighty-six of this Act shall apply to the [<sup>F189</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] in relation to National Parks and other land in Wales as they apply to [<sup>F190</sup>Natural England] in relation to National Parks and other land in England.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F188** S. 86A inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#) (c. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 130(1), [Sch. 8 para. 1\(11\)](#); S.I. 1991/685, art. 3
- F189** Words in s. 86A substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013](#) (No. 755), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 21](#) (with Sch. 7)
- F190** Words in s. 86A substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(k\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

*Areas of outstanding natural beauty*

**F19187**    **Designation of areas of outstanding natural beauty.** **E+W+S**

.....

**Textual Amendments**

**F191** S. 87 repealed (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by 2000 c. 37, s. 102, **Sch. 16 Pt. V**; S.I. 2001/114, **art. 2(2)(m)**; S.I. 2001/1410, **art. 2(q)**

**F19288**    **Functions of certain bodies in relation to areas of outstanding natural beauty.** **E+W+S**

.....

**Textual Amendments**

**F192** S. 88 repealed (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by 2000 c. 37, s. 102, **Sch. 16 Pt. V**; S.I. 2001/114, **art. 2(2)(m)**; S.I. 2001/1410, **art. 2(q)**

*General Powers of Local Planning Authorities*

**89**        **Planting of trees and treatment of derelict land.** **E+W+S**

(1) A local planning authority may plant trees on land in their area for the purpose of preserving or enhancing the natural beauty thereof.

[<sup>F193</sup>(2) Where it appears to a local authority that any land in their area—

    (a) is derelict, neglected or unsightly; or

    (b) is not derelict, neglected or unsightly but is likely to become so by reason of actual or apprehended collapse of the surface as the result of the carrying out of relevant operations which have ceased to be carried out,

they may carry out, for the purpose of reclaiming or improving that land or of enabling it to be brought into use, such works on that land or any other land as appear to them expedient.

In this subsection “relevant operations” means underground mining operations other than operations for the purpose of the working and getting of coal, or of coal and other minerals worked with coal, or for the purpose of getting any product from coal in the course of working and getting coal.]

(2A) ..... <sup>F194</sup>

(3) The powers conferred by this section may be exercised by an authority either on land belonging to them or with the consent of all persons interested therein on other land; and in relation to such other land the said powers shall include power to make arrangements whereby the planting or work is carried out, on such terms as may be provided under the arrangements, by a person other than the authority.



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (4) .....<sup>F195</sup> nothing in [<sup>F196</sup>the foregoing provisions of this section] shall authorise the doing of anything in contravention of any prohibition or restriction having effect under any enactment or rule of law.
- (5) [<sup>F197</sup>A local authority] may acquire land compulsorily for the purpose of any of their functions under this section.
- (6) Where a [<sup>F197</sup>local authority] exercise their powers under the foregoing provisions of this section on land not belonging to the authority, the management of the land, so far as relates to anything done by the authority, may be undertaken either by the authority or by a person interested in the land, as may be agreed between the authority and the persons so interested, and on such terms as may be so agreed.
- [<sup>F198</sup>(7) In this section “local authority” means a local planning authority, the council of a county . . .<sup>F199</sup> not being a local planning authority, or the council of a county district.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F193** S. 89(2) substituted by [Derelict Land Act 1982](#) (c. 42, SIF 46:4), **s. 3(1)**
- F194** Ss. 89(2A), 90(2) repealed by [Local Government Act 1972](#) (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 30**
- F195** Words repealed by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **Sch. 5**
- F196** Words substituted by [Local Authorities \(Land\) Act 1963](#) (c. 29, SIF 81:1), **s. 6(2)**
- F197** Words substituted by [Local Authorities \(Land\) Act 1963](#) (c. 29, SIF 81:1), **s. 6(1)**
- F198** S. 89(7) added by [Local Authorities \(Land\) Act 1963](#) (c. 29, SIF 81:1), **s. 6(4)**
- F199** Words repealed by [Local Government Act 1972](#) (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 30**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C57** S. 89 amended by [London Government Act 1963](#) (c. 33, SIF 81:1), **s. 60(6)**
- C58** S. 89(3) excluded by [Minerals Workings Act 1985](#) (c. 12, SIF 86), **s. 8(2)**

## 90 Local authority byelaws. **E+W+S**

- (1) A local planning authority may, as respects land in their areas belonging to them and comprised either in a National Park or area of outstanding natural beauty, or as respects land or a waterway to which the public are given access by an agreement or order, or in consequence of acquisition, under Part V of this Act, make byelaws for the preservation of order, for the prevention of damage to the land or waterway or anything thereon or therein, and for securing that persons resorting thereto will so behave themselves as to avoid undue interference with the enjoyment of the land or waterway by other persons.
- (2) .....<sup>F200</sup>
- (3) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, byelaws under that subsection—
- may prohibit or restrict the use of the land or waterway, either generally or in any manner specified in the byelaws, by traffic of any description so specified;
  - may contain provisions prohibiting the depositing of rubbish and the leaving of litter;
  - may regulate or prohibit the lighting of fires;
  - may be made so as to relate either to the whole or to any part of the land or waterway, and may make different provisions for different parts thereof:

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

F201

- (4) Before making bylaws under the foregoing provisions of this section as respects a National Park or area of outstanding natural beauty, [<sup>F202</sup>the local planning authority] shall consult with [<sup>F203</sup>Natural England][<sup>F204</sup>(as regards land in England) or the [<sup>F205</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] (as regards land in Wales)].
- (5) A local planning authority may, as respects parking places provided in pursuance of arrangements made by them under Part II of this Act, make byelaws as to the conditions of use, and charges to be made for the use, of such parking places, and for prohibiting or restricting persons from plying for hire with vehicles at such parking places.

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as limiting the general power of a local planning authority to make charges for any services or facilities provided by them under this Act.

- (6) A county council or county district council shall have power to enforce byelaws made under this section by another authority as respects land in the area of the council.

#### Textual Amendments

- F200** Ss. 89(2A), 90(2) repealed by [Local Government Act 1972](#) (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 30**
- F201** S. 90(3) proviso repealed by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **Sch. 5**
- F202** Words substituted by virtue of [Local Government Act 1972](#) (c. 70, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 17 para. 39**
- F203** Words in s. 90(4) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 10(1)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F204** Words in s. 90(4) inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#) (c. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 130(1), **Sch. 8 para. 1(14)**; S.I. 1991/685, art. 3
- F205** Words in s. 90(4) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013](#) (No. 755), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 22** (with Sch. 7)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C59** S. 90 amended by [London Government Act 1963](#) (c. 33, SIF 81:1), s. 60(5) and [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 41(10)
- C60** S. 90(3) restricted by [Countryside Act 1968](#) (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 41(12)

## 91 Default powers of Secretary of State as to certain byelaws. **E+W+S**

- (1) If a local planning authority, when required by the Secretary of State to make, as respects land or a waterway to which the public are given access by an agreement or order, or in consequence of acquisition, under Part V of this Act, byelaws with respect to any of the matters with respect to which they are empowered by the last foregoing section to make byelaws, do not within three months after being so required comply with the requirement to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, he may himself make byelaws in relation to the matters, and as respects the land or waterway, in question:

Provided that before making byelaws under this section as respects a National Park or area of outstanding natural beauty [<sup>F206</sup>in Wales ] the Secretary of State shall consult with [<sup>F207</sup>[<sup>F208</sup>Natural England][<sup>F209</sup>(as regards land or waterways in England) or] the [<sup>F210</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales][<sup>F208</sup>(as regards land or waterways in Wales)]]].

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (2) Any byelaws made by the Secretary of State under this section shall have effect as if they had been made by the local planning authority and confirmed by the Secretary of State, and the provisions of this Act and of any enactment thereby applied shall have effect in relation to the byelaws accordingly.

#### Textual Amendments

- F206** Words in s. 91(1) inserted (E.) (26.5.2015) by [Deregulation Act 2015 \(c. 20\)](#), s. 115(3)(l), [Sch. 22 para. 1\(a\)](#)
- F207** Words in s. 91(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 10\(m\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F208** Words in s. 91(1) omitted (E.) (26.5.2015) by virtue of [Deregulation Act 2015 \(c. 20\)](#), s. 115(3)(l), [Sch. 22 para. 1\(b\)\(c\)](#)
- F209** Words in s. 91(1) inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990 \(c. 43\)](#), SIF 46:4), s. 130(1), [Sch. 8 para. 1\(15\)](#); S.I. 1991/685, art. 3
- F210** Words in s. 91(1) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 22](#) (with Sch. 7)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C61** S. 91 amended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41\)](#), SIF 46:1), [s. 41\(10\)](#)

## 92 Warden. E+W+S

- (1) A local authority may appoint such number of persons as may appear to the authority to be necessary or expedient to act as wardens as respects any land or waterway in relation to which byelaws made by the authority are in force under the last but one foregoing section, or in relation to which the authority have power to make such byelaws.

- (2) ..... <sup>F211</sup>

- (3) For the purpose of exercising any function conferred on him by or under this section a warden appointed thereunder may enter upon any land, or go on any waterway, comprised in an access agreement or order in force under Part V of this Act:

Provided that this subsection shall not confer any power of entry on land which is excepted land for the purposes of the said Part V.

- (4) Subject to the provisions of the last foregoing subsection, the foregoing provisions of this section shall not authorise a warden appointed by an authority thereunder, on land or a waterway in which any person other than that authority has an interest, without the consent of that person to do anything which apart from this section would be actionable at his suit by virtue of that interest.

#### Textual Amendments

- F211** Ss. 92(2), 93, 94 repealed by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41\)](#), SIF 46:1), [Sch. 5](#)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C62** S. 92 amended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41\)](#), SIF 46:1), [ss. 13\(9\)\(10\)](#), [41\(9\)\(10\)](#)
- C63** S. 92(1) extended by [Mineral Workings Act 1985 \(c. 12\)](#), SIF 86), [s 49\(2\)](#)

*Changes to legislation:* National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

C64 S. 92(3)(4) applied (coming into force in accordance with s. 1(2)-(4) of the amending Act) by 2002 c. i, ss. 1(2)-(4), 15(6) (with ss. 38, 39)

93, 94. .... F212 E+W+S

Textual Amendments  
F212 Ss. 92(2), 93, 94 repealed by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), Sch. 5

Financial Provisions

95 ..... F213 E+W+S

Textual Amendments  
F213 S. 95 repealed and superseded by Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (c. 69, SIF 4:5), ss. 47, 73(1), Sch. 17 Pt. II

96 ..... F214 E+W+S

Textual Amendments  
F214 S. 96 repealed by Science and Technology Act 1965 (c. 4, SIF 57), Sch. 4

97 ..... F215 E+W+S

Textual Amendments  
F215 S. 97 repealed and superseded by Derelict Land Act 1982 (c. 42, SIF 46:1). ss. 1(12), 2(3), 5, Sch.

98 ..... F216 E+W+S

Textual Amendments  
F216 S. 98 repealed by Local Government Act 1974 (c. 7, SIF 81:1), Sch. 8

99 Contributions by local authorities. E+W+S

- (1) A local authority may defray or contribute towards, or undertake to defray or contribute towards, expenditure incurred or to be incurred for the purposes of this Act by any other local authority.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (2) In this section the expression “local authority”<sup>F217</sup> means a local planning authority, the council of a county<sup>F218</sup> . . . not being a local planning authority, or the council of a county district<sup>F217</sup> means a <sup>F219</sup>council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994<sup>]</sup>.
- (3) Where, under subsection (4) of section thirteen of this Act, the Minister directs that any power of a local planning authority under that section shall be exercisable by another authority, subsection (1) of this section shall apply as if that other authority were a local authority; and if the direction so provides the local planning authority shall be under a duty to exercise their powers under subsection (1) of this section to such extent as may be specified in the direction.
- <sup>F220</sup>(4) . . . . .
- (5) Any expenditure incurred under this section by a local planning authority in respect of the erection of buildings or the carrying out of work by any such other authority as is mentioned in subsection (3) of this section shall be treated for the purposes of section ninety-seven of this Act as if it were expenditure incurred in the exercise of the powers of the local planning authority mentioned in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of the said section ninety-seven.
- (6) The council of a county<sup>F218</sup> . . . may defray or contribute towards any expenditure <sup>F221</sup>incurred by the Environment Agency, the Natural Resources Body for Wales or an<sup>]</sup><sup>F222</sup> internal drainage board being<sup>]</sup> expenditure incurred for the benefit of a nature reserve managed by or under an agreement with the council or in consequence of anything done in the management of such a reserve.

#### Textual Amendments

- F217** Words “means” to “district council” substituted (S.) for words “means” to “county district” by [Local Government \(Scotland\) Act 1973 \(c. 65\)](#) , [Sch. 27 Pt. II para. 102](#)
- F218** Words repealed by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#) , [Sch. 30](#)
- F219** Words in s. 99(2) substituted (S.) (1.4.1996) by [Local Government etc. \(Scotland\) Act 1994 \(c. 39\)](#) , s. 180(1) , [Sch. 13 para. 33](#) ; S.I. 1996/323 , [art. 4\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- F220** S. 99(4) repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#) , [Sch. 25](#) and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#) , [Sch. 6 para. 70](#)
- F221** Words in s. 99(6) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#) , [art. 1\(2\)](#) , [Sch. 2 para. 23](#) (with [Sch. 7](#) )
- F222** Words beginning “incurred by the National Rivers Authority” substituted (E.W.) for words beginning “incurred by a river board” by [Water Act 1989 \(c. 15, SIF 130\)](#) , ss. 58(7) , 101(1) , 141(6) , 160(1)(2) (4) , 163 , 189(4)–(10) , 190 , 193(1) , [Sch. 25](#) , para. 13(2) , [Sch. 26 paras. 3\(1\)\(2\)](#) , 17 , 40(4) , 57(6) , [58](#)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C65** S. 99 extended by [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#) , [s. 60\(6\)](#)
- C66** S. 99(1) extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#) , [s. 46\(1\)](#)
- C67** S. 99(6) amended by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#) , [Sch. 17 para. 34](#)

## 100 Payments out of moneys provided by Parliament. E+W+S

There shall be defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament—

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (a)

the expenses under this Act of the Minister of Town and Country Planning, . . .  
<sup>F223</sup> and [<sup>F224</sup>the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food];
- (b)

any increase attributable to the provisions of this Act in the sums payable out of such moneys under Part I or Part II of the <sup>M18</sup>Local Government Act 1948.

<b>Textual Amendments</b>
<b>F223</b> Words repealed by Science and Technology Act 1965 (c. 4, SIF 57), Sch. 4
<b>F224</b> Words substituted by virtue of S.I. 1955/554 (1955 I, p. 1200), art. 3(1)
<b>Modifications etc. (not altering text)</b>
<b>C68</b> Reference to Minister of Town and Country Planning to be construed as reference to Secretary of State: S.I. 1970/1681, arts 2, 6(3), Sch. 1
<b>Marginal Citations</b>
<b>M18</b> 1948 c. 26.

Supplementary Provisions

101 Crown land. E+W+S

- (1) The following provisions of this section shall have effect for applying certain provisions of this Act to Crown land, that is to say land an interest in which belongs to His Majesty in right of the Crown or the Duchy of Lancaster, or to the Duchy of Cornwall, and land an interest in which belongs to a Government department or is held in trust for His Majesty for the purposes of a Government department.
- (2) A National Park may include Crown land, and with the consent of the appropriate authority the powers conferred by Part II of this Act may be exercised as respects any interest in Crown land.
- (3) Where a National Park includes any Crown land, the appropriate authority and the local planning authority in whose area the land is situated may enter into an agreement for securing that, so far as any interest held by or on behalf of the Crown is concerned and so far as may be provided by the agreement, the land will be managed in a manner consistent with the accomplishment of either or both of the purposes specified in subsection (1) of section five of this Act.
- (4) The appropriate authority may enter into an agreement under Part III of this Act as respects an interest in Crown land held by or on behalf of the Crown, and an agreement thereunder as respects any other interest in Crown land shall not have effect unless approved by the appropriate authority.
- (5) An interest in Crown land, other than one held by or on behalf of the Crown, may be acquired under the said Part III, but only with the consent of the appropriate authority.
- (6) Parts IV and V of this Act shall apply to Crown land, but subject to the following modifications, that is to say,—

(a)

no . . . <sup>F225</sup> access order shall be made as respects such land except with the consent of the appropriate authority;

(b)

no such land shall be acquired under the said Part IV or V except with such consent; and



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (c) if any land comprised in an access agreement or order, not being excepted land as defined for the purposes of the said Part V, becomes Crown land while it is so comprised, the access agreement or order shall cease to apply to the land unless the appropriate authority consent to the continued application thereto of the agreement or order.
- (7) Section eighty-nine of this Act shall apply to Crown land if the appropriate authority consents to its application thereto, but subject to the following modifications, that is to say—
  - (a) an interest in Crown land may be acquired for the purposes of the said section eighty-nine only with the consent of the appropriate authority;
  - (b) if any land affected by arrangements under subsection (3) of that section or an agreement under subsection (6) thereof becomes Crown land, the arrangements or agreement shall cease to apply to the land unless the appropriate authority consent to the continued application thereto of the arrangements or agreement.
- (8) Byelaws made under this Act shall apply to Crown land if the appropriate authority consents to their application thereto.
- (9) ..... F226
- (10) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (3) or subsection (6) of this section—
  - (a) an agreement authorised by the said subsection (3) and made . . . F227 by any Government department, or an access agreement so made, shall be of no effect unless it is approved by the Treasury; and
  - (b) in considering whether to make or approve an agreement authorised by the said subsection (3), or an access agreement, relating to land belonging to a Government department or held in trust for His Majesty for the purposes of a Government department, the department and the Treasury shall have regard to the purposes for which the land is held by or for the department.
- (11) In this section the expression “the appropriate authority”, in relation to any land, means—
  - (a) in the case of land belonging to His Majesty in right of the Crown, the Commissioners of Crown Lands or other Government department having the management of the land in question;
  - (b) in the case of land belonging to His Majesty in right of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Chancellor of the Duchy;
  - (c) in the case of land belonging to the Duchy of Cornwall, such person as the Duke of Cornwall or the possessor for the time being of the Duchy of Cornwall appoints;
  - (d) in the case of land belonging to a Government department or held in trust for His Majesty for the purposes of a Government department, that department;and if any question arises under this section as to what authority is the appropriate authority in relation to any land, that question shall be referred to the Treasury, whose decision shall be final.

#### Textual Amendments

**F225** Words repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), [Sch. 25](#) and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), [Sch. 6 para. 70](#)

*Changes to legislation:* National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

**F226** S. 101(9) repealed by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), Sch. 5

**F227** Words repealed by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), Sch. 5

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C69** S. 101(3) modified (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, ss. 61(3)(a), 125(2) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7)

102 ..... F228 E+W+S

Textual Amendments

**F228** S. 102 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), Sch. 30

103 General provisions as to acquisition of land. E+W+S

- [<sup>F229</sup>( 1 ) Any power conferred by this Act on [<sup>F230</sup>the appropriate conservation body][<sup>F231</sup>(as defined in section 15A of this Act)] or a local authority to acquire land compulsorily shall be exercisable in any particular case on their being authorised so to do by the Secretary of State.]
- [<sup>F232</sup>(1A) The <sup>M19</sup> Acquisition of Land Act 1981 shall apply to the acquisition of land under this Act, and in relation to the acquisition under this Act of any interest in land the <sup>M20</sup> Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 shall apply with any necessary modifications. ]
- [<sup>F233</sup>( 2 ) In relation to the compulsory acquisition of land under this Act by [<sup>F234</sup> Scottish Natural Heritage ] or a local authority, the <sup>M21</sup> Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act 1946, shall apply as if this Act had been in force immediately before the commencement of that Act and as if in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section one thereof, in Part I of the First Schedule thereto and in the Second Schedule thereto references to a local authority included references to [<sup>F234</sup> Scottish Natural Heritage ] :
- Provided that section two of the said Act (which confers temporary powers for the speedy acquisition of land in urgent cases) shall not apply to any such compulsory acquisition as is mentioned in this subsection.]
- (3) ..... F235
- (4) ..... F236
- (5) The following provision shall have effect, in relation to the acquisition of land under this Act, in substitution for [<sup>F237</sup>section 120 of the <sup>M22</sup>Local Government Act 1972] (which provides for the acquisition of land by local authorities by agreement for the purposes of their functions), that is to say, a local authority may with the consent of the Minister by agreement acquire, whether by way of purchase, lease or exchange, any land, whether within or without the area of the local authority, which they require for the purpose of any of their functions under this Act or any other land which they may be authorised under this Act to acquire compulsorily.
- (6) In this section, and in any enactment in this Act which confers a power to acquire land compulsorily, the expression “land” includes any interest in land; [<sup>F238</sup>and the provisions of the Lands Clauses Acts incorporated with this Act by virtue of paragraph 1 of the Second Schedule to the <sup>M23</sup>Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Act 1946, as applied by subsections (2) and (4) of this section, shall apply with the necessary modifications in relation to the compulsory acquisition of any interest in land, being an interest not falling within the definition of “lands” contained in the Lands Clauses Acts.]

- (7) In the application of this section to Scotland there shall be substituted, for references to the <sup>M24</sup>Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act 1946, and to [ <sup>F237</sup>section 120 of the <sup>M25</sup>Local Government Act 1972] respectively, references to the <sup>M26</sup>Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947, and to section [ <sup>F239</sup>70 of the <sup>M27</sup>Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973] and in subsection (5) there shall be substituted for the words “whether by way of purchase, lease or exchange” the words “whether by way of purchase, feu, lease or excambion”; and subsection (4) shall not apply.

#### Textual Amendments

- F229** S. 103(1) substituted by Nature Conservancy Council Act 1973 (c. 54, SIF 46:1), **Sch. 1 para. 2(1)**
- F230** Words in s. 103(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 15(g)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F231** Words in s. 103(1) inserted (1.4.1991) by Environmental Protection Act 1990 (c. sx 43, SIF 46:4), s. 132, Sch. 9 para. 1(4)(a); S.I. 1991/685, **art. 3**
- F232** S. 103(1A) inserted by Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (c. 67, SIF 28:1), s. 34, **Sch. 4 para. 8**
- F233** S. 103(2) repealed (E.W.) by Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (c. 67, SIF 28:1), s. 34, **Sch. 6 Pt. I**
- F234** Words in s. 103(2) substituted (1.4.1992) by virtue of Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act 1991 (c. 28, SIF 46:1), s. 4(6), **Sch. 2 para. 1(4)**; S.I. 1991/2633, **art.4**
- F235** S. 103(3) repealed by Land Compensation Act 1961 (c. 33, SIF 28:1), **Sch. 5** and Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1963 (c. 51, SIF 28:2), **Sch. 4**
- F236** S. 103(4) repealed by Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (c. 67, SIF 28:1), s. 34, **Sch. 6 Pt. I**
- F237** Words substituted by virtue of Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70, SIF 81:1), s. 272(2)
- F238** Words repealed (E.W.) by Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (c. 67, SIF 28:1), s. 34, **Sch. 6 Pt. I**
- F239** Words substituted by Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (c. 65, SIF 81:2), **Sch. 27 Pt. II para. 103**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C70** S. 103 extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 46(1)
- C71** S. 103(1)(2) extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 46(2)  
s. 103 applied (30.1.2001) by 1981 c. 69, s. 28N(5) (as substituted (30.1.2001) by 2000 c. 37, ss. 75(1), 103(2), **Sch. 9 para. 1**)

#### Marginal Citations

- M19** 1981 c. 67(28:1).
- M20** 1965 c. 56(28:1).
- M21** 1946 c. 49.
- M22** 1972 c. 70.
- M23** 1946 c. 49.
- M24** 1946 c. 49.
- M25** 1972 c. 70.
- M26** 1947 c. 42.
- M27** 1973 c. 65.

---

*Changes to legislation:* National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

## 104 General provisions as to appropriation and disposal of land. **E+W+S**

- (1) The following provisions of this section shall have effect with respect to the disposal or appropriation by any local authority of land which has been acquired by them under this Act or appropriated by them for purposes for which land can be acquired under this Act, and is for the time being held by the authority for the purposes for which it was acquired or appropriated.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of subsections (5) and (6) of this section—
  - (a) where any such land was acquired or appropriated by the authority for a purpose involving the disposal thereof by the authority or for a purpose which in the opinion of the authority can best be achieved by the disposal thereof, or which can be achieved consistently with the disposal thereof, they may dispose of the land to such person, in such manner and subject to such conditions as may appear to the authority to be expedient in order to secure that the land will be best dealt with having regard to the purpose for which it was acquired;
  - (b) where any such land is no longer required for the purpose for which it is held, the authority may dispose thereof to such person, in such manner and subject to such conditions as may appear to the authority to be expedient, having regard to the nature and situation of the land, in order to secure the best use of the land.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (5) of this section, the authority may appropriate any such land, where the land is no longer required for the purpose for which it is held, for any other purpose for which the authority are or may be authorised in any capacity to acquire land under this Act or by or under any other enactment.
- (4) In relation to an appropriation under the last foregoing subsection, [<sup>F240</sup>subsection (4) of section 122 of the <sup>M28</sup>Local Government Act 1972], . . . [<sup>F241</sup> (which relate to the operation of section sixty-eight of the <sup>M29</sup>Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845, and to adjustments in accounts) shall have effect as they have effect in relation to appropriations under those sections respectively.
- (5) The consent of the Minister shall be requisite to any disposal or appropriation of land by a local authority under this section, and may be given as respects either a particular disposal or appropriation or disposals or appropriations of any class, and either subject to or free from any conditions or limitations.
- (6) The consent of the Minister to a sale by a local authority under this section of the freehold in any land, or to a lease by them thereunder of any land for a term of more than ninety-nine years, shall not be given unless he is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which render the disposal of the land in that manner expedient as mentioned in subsection (2) of this section.
- (7) . . . . . [<sup>F242</sup>
- (9) In this section references to disposal of land shall be construed as references to disposal thereof in any manner (otherwise than by appropriation) whether by way of sale, exchange or lease, by the creation of any easement, right or privilege, or in any other manner, except disposal by way of gift, mortgage or charge.
- (10) In relation to any such land as is mentioned in subsection (1) of this section, this section shall have effect to the exclusion of the provisions of [<sup>F240</sup>subsections (1) to (3), (5)

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

and (6) of section 122 and section 123 of the <sup>M30</sup>Local Government Act 1972], . . . <sup>F241</sup>,  
[<sup>F243</sup>or of sections 73 and 74 of the <sup>M31</sup>Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973].

[<sup>F244</sup>(11) [<sup>F240</sup>Section 153 of the <sup>M32</sup>Local Government Act 1972], . . . <sup>F241</sup> (which relate to the application of capital money received from the disposal of land), and section one hundred and sixty-eight of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1947 (so far as it relates to the application of such money), shall have effect as respects capital money received in respect of transactions under the provisions of this section relating to the disposal of land as they have effect as respects capital money received in respect of such transactions as are mentioned in those sections respectively.]

(12) In the application of this section to Scotland, the following provision shall be substituted for subsection (4) of this section, that is to say—

“(4) on any appropriation being made under the last foregoing subsection proper adjustments in respect thereof shall be made in the accounts of the authority”,

and the following provision shall be substituted for subsection (9) of this section, that is to say—

“(9) In this section references to disposal of land shall be construed as references to disposal thereof in any manner (otherwise than by appropriation), whether by way of sale, feu, excambion or lease, by the creation of any servitude, right or privilege, or in any other manner except disposal by way of gift or in security”;

and subsections (6), (7) and (8) shall be omitted.

**Textual Amendments**  
**F240** Words substituted by virtue of [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), **s. 272(2)**  
**F241** Words repealed by [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 18 Pt. II**  
**F242** Ss. 104(7)(8), 105 repealed by [Local Government Act 1974 \(c. 7, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 8**  
**F243** Words substituted by [Local Government \(Scotland\) Act 1973 \(c. 65, SIF 81:2\)](#), **Sch. 27 Pt. II para. 104**  
**F244** S. 104(11) repealed (S.) by [Local Government \(Scotland\) Act 1973 \(c. 65\)](#), **Sch. 29**

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**  
**C72** S. 104 extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **s. 46(1)**, excluded by *ibid.*, Sch. 2 para. 4(2)  
**C73** s. 104 amended (E.W.) (19.9.1995) by [1995 c. 25, ss. 68\(9\), 125\(2\)](#) (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7)

**Marginal Citations**  
**M28** [1972 c. 70.](#)  
**M29** [1845 c. 18.](#)  
**M30** [1972 c. 70.](#)  
**M31** [1973 c. 65.](#)  
**M32** [1972 c. 70.](#)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

### Textual Amendments

**F245** Ss. 104(7)(8), 105 repealed by [Local Government Act 1974](#) (c. 7, SIF 81:1), [Sch. 8](#)

## 106 Supplementary provisions as to byelaws. **U.K.**

- (1) [<sup>F246</sup>Sections 236 to 238 of the <sup>M33</sup>Local Government Act 1972] shall apply to all byelaws under this Act as if any authority having power to make them were a local authority within the meaning of the said Act of [<sup>F246</sup>1972] so however, that in relation to byelaws made by [<sup>F247</sup>the appropriate conservation body][<sup>F248</sup>(as defined in section 15A of this Act)] the said sections shall apply subject to such adaptations as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- (2) In relation to byelaws made under this Act the confirming authority for the purposes of the said [<sup>F246</sup>section 236] shall be the Secretary of State.
- (3) Any authority having power under this Act to make byelaws shall have power to enforce byelaws made by them.
- (4) The following provisions shall have effect in the application of this section to Scotland:
  - (a) for references to [<sup>F246</sup>the <sup>M34</sup>Local Government Act 1972 and to sections 236 to 238] thereof there shall be substituted references to the Local Government (Scotland) Act <sup>M35</sup>[<sup>F249</sup>1973, and to sections 201 to 204] thereof; and
  - (b) nothing in the last foregoing subsection shall be construed as authorising any such authority as is mentioned therein to institute proceedings in Scotland for an offence.
- [<sup>F250</sup>(5) This section does not apply to byelaws made under this Act by the [<sup>F251</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] .]

### Subordinate Legislation Made

**P2** S. 106: for previous exercises of this power, see Index to Government Orders

### Textual Amendments

**F246** Words substituted by virtue of [Local Government Act 1972](#) (c. 70, SIF 81:1), [s. 272\(2\)](#)

**F247** Words in s. 106(1) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), s. 107, [Sch. 11 para. 15\(h\)](#); S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

**F248** Words in s. 106(1) inserted (1.4.1991) by [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#) (c. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 132, [Sch. 9 para. 1\(5\)](#); S.I. 1991/685, [art.3](#)

**F249** Words substituted by [Local Government \(Scotland\) Act 1973](#) (c. 65, SIF 81:2), [Sch. 27 Pt. II para. 105](#)

**F250** S. 106(5) inserted (W.) (31.3.2015) by [Local Government Byelaws \(Wales\) Act 2012](#) (anaw 2), s. 22(2), [Sch. 2 para. 5\(2\)](#); S.I. 2015/1025, art. 2(r) (with art. 3)

**F251** Words in s. 106(5) substituted (E.W.) (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) (anaw 3), s. 88(2) (g), [Sch. 2 para. 28\(2\)](#)

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C74** S. 106 extended by [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](#) (c. 69, SIF 81:1), [s. 272\(2\)](#)

s. 106 applied (30.1.2001) by [1981 c. 69, s. 28R\(2\)\(b\)](#) (as substituted (30.1.2001) by [2000 c. 37, ss. 75\(1\), 103\(2\), Sch. 9 para. 1](#))



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### Marginal Citations

- M33** 1972 c. 70.  
**M34** 1972 c. 70.  
**M35** 1973 c. 65.

### [<sup>F252</sup>106A] **Supplementary provisions as to byelaws made by the [<sup>F253</sup> Natural Resources Body for Wales] E+W+S**

- (1) Sections 3 to 19 of the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 shall apply to all byelaws made by the [<sup>F254</sup> Natural Resources Body for Wales] under this Act.
- (2) The confirming authority for the purposes of section 7 of the 2012 Act is the Welsh Ministers.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F252** S. 106A inserted (W.) (31.3.2015) by [Local Government Byelaws \(Wales\) Act 2012 \(anaw 2\)](#), s. 22(2), [Sch. 2 para. 5\(3\)](#); [S.I. 2015/1025](#), art. 2(r) (with art. 3)
- F253** Words in s. 106A heading substituted (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\)](#), s. 88(2)(g), [Sch. 2 para. 28\(3\)](#)
- F254** Words in s. 106A(1) substituted (21.5.2016) by [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 \(anaw 3\)](#), s. 88(2)(g), [Sch. 2 para. 28\(3\)](#)

### **107 Supplementary provisions as to compensation under ss. 20, 46 and 70. E+W+S**

- (1) The following provisions shall have effect as to compensation under section twenty of this Act, under that section as applied by section twenty-one thereof . . . <sup>F255</sup> and under section seventy thereof.
- (2) Any dispute arising on a claim for any such compensation shall be determined by the [<sup>F256</sup>Upper Tribunal].
- (3) For the purposes of any reference to the [<sup>F257</sup>Upper Tribunal] under the last foregoing subsection, [<sup>F258</sup>section 4 of the <sup>M36</sup>Land Compensation Act 1961][<sup>F259</sup>section 5 of the <sup>M37</sup>Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1963] (which relates to costs) shall have effect with the substitution, for references to the acquiring authority, of references to the authority from whom the compensation in question is claimed.
- (4) Rules 2 to 4 of the Rules set out in [<sup>F258</sup>section 5 of the said Act of 1961][<sup>F259</sup>section 12 of the said Act of 1963] (which provides rules for valuation on a compulsory acquisition) shall apply to the calculation of any such compensation, in so far as it is calculated by reference to the depreciation of the value of an interest in land.
- (5) In the case of an interest in land subject to a mortgage—
  - (a) any such compensation in respect of the depreciation of that interest shall be calculated as if the interest were not subject to the mortgage;
  - (b) a claim or application for the payment of any such compensation, or an application for the recording of a claim in respect of the interest under subsection (1) of section seventy-two of this Act, may be made by any person who when the byelaws or order giving rise to the compensation were or was made was the mortgagee of the interest, or by any person claiming under such

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- a person, but without prejudice to the making of a claim or application by any other person;
- (c) a mortgagee shall not be entitled to any such compensation in respect of his interest as such; and
  - (d) any compensation payable in respect of the interest subject to the mortgage shall be paid to the mortgagee, or, where there is more than one mortgagee, to the first mortgagee, and shall in either case be applied by him as if it were proceeds of sale.
- (6) This section shall apply to Scotland—
- (a) with the substitution for any reference to the <sup>[F260]</sup>Upper Tribunal of a reference to the Lands Tribunal for Scotland; and
  - (b) with the substitution respectively for any reference to a mortgage, to a mortgagee, and to the first mortgagee, of a reference to a heritable security, to the creditor in a heritable security, and to the creditor whose heritable security has priority over any other heritable securities secured on the land:

Provided that until sections one to three of the <sup>M38</sup>Lands Tribunal Act 1949, come into force as respects Scotland the expression “the Lands Tribunal for Scotland” in subsection (2) of this section shall be construed as meaning an official arbiter appointed under <sup>[F259]</sup>the <sup>M39</sup>Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1963], and the following provisions of the said <sup>[F259]</sup>Act of 1963] that is to say, <sup>[F259]</sup>section 3] thereof (which relates to procedure), <sup>[F259]</sup>section 5] thereof (which relates to costs) . . . <sup>F261</sup> but with the substitution for references to the acquiring authority of references to the authority from whom the compensation in question is claimed, and <sup>[F259]</sup>subsection (9) of section 3] thereof (which relates to the statement of special cases) as modified by section ten of the said Act of 1949, shall apply for the purposes of the arbitration.

#### Textual Amendments

- F255** Words repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 6 para. 70**
- F256** Words in s. 107(2) substituted (1.6.2009) by [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 19(a)** (with Sch. 5)
- F257** Words in s. 107(3) substituted (1.6.2009) by [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 19(a)** (with Sch. 5)
- F258** Words substituted (E.W.) by virtue of [Land Compensation Act 1961 \(c. 33, SIF 28:1\)](#), **s. 40(1)**
- F259** Words substituted (S.) by virtue of [Land Compensation \(Scotland\) Act 1963 \(c. 51, SIF 28:2\)](#), **s. 47(1)**
- F260** Words in s. 107(6)(a) substituted (1.6.2009) by [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 19(b)** (with Sch. 5)
- F261** Words spent

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C75** S. 107 applied (30.1.2001) by [1981 c. 69, s. 28R\(2\)\(b\)](#) (as substituted (30.1.2001) by [2000 c. 37, ss. 75\(1\), 103\(2\)](#), **Sch. 9 para. 1**)

#### Marginal Citations

- M36** [1961 c. 33.](#)
- M37** [1963 c. 51.](#)
- M38** [1949 c. 42.](#)
- M39** [1963 c. 51.](#)

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

## 108 Powers of entry. **E+W**

- (1) For the purpose of surveying land in connection with—
- (a) the acquisition thereof or of any interest therein [<sup>F262</sup>in relation to land in Scotland], whether by agreement or compulsorily,
  - (b) .....<sup>F263</sup>
  - (c) the making of an access order with respect thereto,
- in the exercise of any power conferred by this Act, any person duly authorised in writing by the Minister or other authority having power so to acquire the land or to make the order, as the case may be, may enter upon the land.
- [<sup>F264</sup>(1A) A person may not be authorised under subsection (1) to enter and survey or value land in England and Wales in connection with a proposal to acquire an interest in or a right over land (but see section 172 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016).]
- (2) For the purpose of surveying land, or of estimating its value, in connection with any claim for compensation payable under this Act by a Minister or other authority in respect of that or any other land, any person being an officer of the Valuation Office or a person duly authorised in writing by the authority from whom the compensation is claimed may enter upon the land.
- (3) A person authorised under this section to enter upon any land shall, if so required, produce evidence of his authority before entering; and a person shall not under this section demand admission as of right to any land which is occupied unless at least [<sup>F265</sup>fourteen days'] notice in writing of the intended entry has been given to the occupier.
- (4) Any person who wilfully obstructs a person in the exercise of his powers under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [<sup>F266</sup>level 1 on the standard scale].

### Textual Amendments

- F262** Words in s. 108(1)(a) inserted (13.7.2016) by [Housing and Planning Act 2016 \(c. 22\), s. 216\(3\), Sch. 14 para. 3\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2016/733, reg. 3\(h\)](#) (with [reg. 6](#))
- F263** S. 108(1)(b) repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\), Sch. 25](#) and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\), Sch. 6 para. 70](#)
- F264** S. 108(1A) inserted (13.7.2016) by [Housing and Planning Act 2016 \(c. 22\), s. 216\(3\), Sch. 14 para. 3\(3\)](#); [S.I. 2016/733, reg. 3\(h\)](#) (with [reg. 6](#))
- F265** Words substituted by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\), s. 46\(3\)](#)
- F266** Words substituted by virtue of (E.W.) [Criminal Justice Act 1982 \(c. 48, SIF 39:1\), ss. 38, 46](#) and (S.) [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975 \(c. 21, SIF 39:1\), ss. 389F, 289G](#) (as inserted by [Criminal Justice Act 1982 \(c. 48, SIF 39:1\), s. 54](#))

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C76** S. 108 extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\), s. 46\(1\)](#)
- C77** S. 108 restricted (S.) (1.4.1992) by [Natural Heritage \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 28, SIF 46:1\), s. 7\(11\)](#); [S.I. 1991/2633, art.4](#)

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

## 109 †Application of provisions of Act of 1947 as to inquiries and service of notices.

**E+W+S**

- (1) [<sup>F267</sup>Section 282 of the <sup>M40</sup>Town and Country Planning Act 1971] (which provides for the holding by the Minister of local inquiries for the purposes of that Act) shall apply for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) [<sup>F267</sup>Section 283 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971] and [<sup>F268</sup>section 269 of the <sup>M41</sup>Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972] (which provide for the service of notices and other documents) shall apply to notices and other documents required or authorised to be served or given under this Act:

Provided that this subsection shall not apply to the service of any notice required or authorised to be served under the First Schedule to the <sup>M42</sup>Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act 1946, or the <sup>M43</sup>Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947, as applied by this Act.

- (3) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to Scotland.

### Textual Amendments

**F267** Words substituted by virtue of [Town and Country Planning Act 1971 \(c. 78, SIF 123:1\)](#), [Sch. 24 para. 2](#)

**F268** Words substituted by virtue of [Town and Country Planning \(Scotland\) Act 1972 \(c. 52, SIF 123:2\)](#), [Sch. 22 para. 2](#)

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C78** Unreliable marginal note

**C79** S. 109 extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41\)](#), [s. 46\(1\)](#)

**C80** S. 109(2): Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30 SIF 115:1), s. 17(2)(a) applies to the construction of the reference to Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act 1946

### Marginal Citations

**M40** [1971 c. 78](#).

**M41** [1972 c. 52](#).

**M42** [1946 c. 18](#).

**M43** [1947 c. 49](#).

## 110 Regulations and orders. **E+W+S**

- (1) Any power conferred by this Act to make regulations shall be exercisable by statutory instrument.
- (2) Any order under Part IV, V or VI of this Act may be varied or revoked by a subsequent order made in the like manner and subject to the like provisions:

Provided that, without prejudice to the making of a new access order under Part V of this Act, an access order under the said Part V shall not be varied so as to comprise land not comprised in the original order.

- (3) Any regulations made under this Act shall be subject to annulment by a resolution of either House of Parliament.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

## 111 Application to Isles of Scilly. **E+W+S**

- (1) The Minister may, after consultation with the Council of the Isles of Scilly, by order provide for the application of this Act to the Isles of Scilly as if those Isles were a separate county; and any such order may provide for the application of this Act to those Isles subject to such modifications, or to the exception of such Parts or provisions thereof, as may be specified in the order.
- (2) The power to make orders conferred by this section shall be exercisable by statutory instrument.

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C81** S. 111 extended by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), **s. 46(1)** and by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 17**, para. 40

## [<sup>F269</sup>111A] Application to the Broads Authority. **E+W+S**

- (1) Sections 21 and 22 of this Act shall have effect as if the Broads Authority were a county council.
- (2) Sections 54 and 89 of this Act shall have effect as if the Broads Authority were a local planning authority.
- (3) Part V of this Act (apart from section 69) shall have effect as if the Broads Authority were a local planning authority but as if—
  - (a) sections <sup>F270</sup> . . . , 74 and 78 were omitted; and
  - (b) <sup>F271</sup> . . . , the Broads were a National Park.
- (4) Section 69 of this Act shall have effect as if the Broads Authority were a county planning authority.
- (5) In this section “ the Broads ” has the same meaning as in the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988. ]

### Textual Amendments

**F269** S. 111A inserted by [Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988 \(c. 4, SIF 81:1\)](#), ss. 2(5)(6), 23(2), 27(2), **Sch. 3 para. 2**

**F270** Words in s. 111A(3)(a) repealed (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by [2000 c. 37, s. 102](#), **Sch. 16 Pt. I**; [S.I. 2001/114, art. 2\(2\)\(k\)](#); [S.I. 2001/1410, art. 2\(m\)](#)

**F271** Words in s. 111A(3)(b) repealed (1.4.1997) by [1995 c. 25, s. 120\(3\)](#), **Sch. 24** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117); [S.I. 1996/2560, art. 2](#), **Sch.**

## 112 Epping Forest and Burnham Beeches. **E+W+S**

- (1) The provisions of this Act mentioned in the next following subsection shall not apply to any of the lands under the regulation and management of the Corporation of London as Conservators of Epping Forest, or acquired by, and vested in, that Corporation under the <sup>M44</sup>Corporation of London (Open Spaces) Act 1878, in the area known as Burnham Beeches.

*Changes to legislation: National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

(2) The said provisions are Part II of this Act, Part V thereof, and sections [F272eighty-nine] to ninety-four thereof.

**Textual Amendments**  
F272 Words in s. 112(2) substituted (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by 2000 c. 37, s. 93, Sch. 15 Pt. I para. 2 (with s. 84(4)-(6)); S.I. 2001/114, art. 2(2)(e); S.I. 2001/1410, art. 2(g)

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**  
C82 S. 112(2) extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 46(4)

**Marginal Citations**  
M44 1878 c. cxxvii.

113 National Trust land. E+W+S

No power conferred by Part V or Part VI of this Act to acquire land compulsorily shall be exercisable in respect of land belonging to the National Trust which is held by the Trust inalienably.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**  
C83 S. 113 extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), s. 46(5)

114 Interpretation. E+W+S

(1) In this Act the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say—

F273

[F274 “ area of outstanding natural beauty ” means an area designated under section 82 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000; ]

F275  
...  
F276  
...

[F277 “drainage authority” means—

(a) as respects England, the Environment Agency;

(b) as respects Wales, the Natural Resources Body for Wales;

(c) in either case, an internal drainage board;]

“interest”, in relation to land, includes any estate in land and any right over land, whether the right is exercisable by virtue of the ownership of an interest in land or by virtue of a licence or agreement, and in particular includes sporting rights;

“land” includes land covered by water and as respects Scotland includes salmon fishings;

“the Minister” as respects England and Wales means [F278the Secretary of State] and as respects Scotland means the Secretary of State;

“National Park” has the meaning assigned to it by subsection (3) of section five of this Act;

“open-air recreation” does not include organized games;



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

“owner”, in relation to any land, means, except in Part III of this Act, a person, other than a mortgagee not in possession, who, whether in his own right or as trustee or agent for any other person, is entitled to receive the rack rent of the land or, where the land is not let at a rack rent, would be so entitled if it were so let, and, in Part III of this Act, as respects England and Wales means any person being either entitled to the fee simple or being a mortgagee in possession of the land and as respects Scotland has the meaning assigned to it by section twenty-six of this Act ;

F279

“vehicle” does not include a vessel, except any vessel adapted for use on land while it is being so used;

“waterway” means any lake, river, canal or other waters, being (in any case) waters suitable, or which can reasonably be rendered suitable, for sailing, boating, bathing or fishing;

and, except where the context otherwise requires, other expressions have the same meanings respectively as in [F280the M45Town and Country Planning Act 1971] or, in their application to Scotland, as in [F281the M46Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972].

- (2) References in this Act to the preservation [F282, or the conservation,] of the natural beauty of an area shall be construed as including references to the preservation [F282or, as the case may be, the conservation] of [F283its flora, fauna and geological and physiographical features].
- (3) References in this Act to the planting of trees shall be construed as including references to the planting of bushes, the planting or sowing of flowers and the sowing of grass and the laying of turf.
- (4) References in this Act to any enactment shall be construed as references to that enactment as amended by or under any subsequent enactment including this Act.

## Textual Amendments

F273 Definition spent

F274 S. 114(1): definition of “area of outstanding natural beauty” substituted (1.4.2001 for E. and 1.5.2001 for W.) by 2000 c. 37, s. 93, **Sch. 15 Pt. I para. 3** (with s. 84(4)-(6)); S.I. 2001/114, **art. 2(2)(e)**; S.I. 2001/1410, **art. 2(g)**

F275 Words in s. 114(1) repealed (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 24, Sch. 12**; S.I. 2006/2541, **art. 2** (with **Sch.**)

F276 Words in s. 114(1) omitted (1.4.2013) by virtue of The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2013 (No. 755), **art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 24(2)** (with **Sch. 7**)

F277 Words in s. 114(1) substituted (1.4.2013) by The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2013 (No. 755), **art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 24(3)** (with **Sch. 7**)

F278 Words substituted by virtue of S.I. 1951/142 (1951 I, p. 1348), **art. 2**, 1951/1900 (1951 I, p. 1347), 1965/143, **arts. 2(2), 3(1)**, 1965/319, **arts. 2(1), 10(1)**, **Sch. 1 Pt. I** and 1970/1681, **arts. 2, 6(3)**

F279 Definition repealed by Water Resources Act 1963 (c. 38, SIF 130), **Sch. 14 Pt. I**

F280 Words substituted by virtue of Town and Country Planning Act 1971 (c. 78, SIF 123:1), **Sch. 24 para. 2**

F281 Words substituted by virtue of Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972 (c. 52, SIF 123:2), **Sch. 22 para. 2**

F282 Words in s. 114(2) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(8)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, **Sch. 8 para. 7**); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2(1)**

F283 Words substituted by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **s. 21(7)**

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C84** In s. 114(1) the definitions of "interest" and "land" applied (S.) (1.4.1992) by [Natural Heritage \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 28, SIF 46:1\), s. 1\(2\), Sch. 1 para. 19\(2\); S.I. 1991/2633, art. 4](#)

**C85** In s. 114(1) the definitions of "interest" and "land" applied (1.4.1991) by Environmental Protection Act 1990 (C. 43, SIF 46:4), s. 128(5), Sch. 6 para. 18(2); S.I. 199/685, art. 3

**C86** In s. 114(1) the definition of "waterway" applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Industry Act 1991 \(c. 56, SIF 130\), ss. 157\(6\), 223\(2\)](#)  
In s. 114(1) the definition of "waterway" applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Resources Act 1991 \(c. 57, SIF 130\), ss. 210\(1\), 225\(2\), Sch. 25 para. 3\(4\)](#)

**C87** Definition of “open-air recreation” restricted by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\), s. 21\(6\)](#)

**Marginal Citations**

**M45** [1971 c. 78.](#)

**M46** [1972 c. 52.](#)

115    **Short title and extent.** **E+W+S**

- (1) This Act may be cited as the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
- (2) This Act, except Part III thereof and so much of this Part thereof as relates to the said Part III, shall not extend to Scotland; and this Act shall not extend to Northern Ireland.

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

## SCHEDULES

### FIRST SCHEDULE E+W

#### PROVISIONS AS TO MAKING, CONFIRMATION, COMING INTO OPERATION AND VALIDITY OF CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS

#### <sup>X1</sup> PART I E+W

##### Editorial Information

- X1** Pt. I so far as it relates to a public path order, a diversion order or an extinguishment order, repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), [Sch. 25](#) and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), [Sch. 6 para. 70](#)

#### *Orders designating National Parks, Public Path Orders, Diversion Orders and Extinguishment Orders, and Access Orders*

- 1 (1) Before—
  - (a) an order designating a National Park,
  - (b) ..... <sup>F284</sup>
  - (c) an access order,

is submitted to the Minister for confirmation, the authority by whom the order was made shall give notice in the prescribed form stating the effect of the order and that it has been made and is about to be submitted for confirmation, naming places in the locality to which the order relates where copies of the order and of the map referred to therein may be inspected, and specifying the time (not being less than twenty-eight days) within which, and the manner in which, representations or objections with respect to the order may be made.
- (2) Before the Minister makes an order varying an order designating a National Park, or . . . <sup>F285</sup> or an access order, he shall prepare a draft of the order and shall give notice stating that he proposes to make the order and the effect thereof, naming places in the locality to which the draft relates where a copy of the draft and of the map referred to therein may be inspected, and specifying the time (not being less than twenty-eight days) within which, and the manner in which, representations or objections with respect to the draft may be made.
- (3) The notice to be given under either of the two foregoing sub-paragraphs shall be given—
  - (a) in the case of an order designating a National Park or an order varying such an order, by publication in the London Gazette, in two newspapers circulating in the country generally and in at least one local newspaper circulating in the [<sup>F286</sup>every county or county borough which] includes any of the land to which the order relates;

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) in the case of . . . <sup>F285</sup> or an access order, by publication in the London Gazette and in at least one local newspaper circulating in the locality in which the land to which the order relates is situated, and by serving a like notice on every owner, lessee and occupier (except tenants for a month or any period less than a month) of any of that land, so however that—
- (i) except in the case of an owner, lessee or occupier being a local authority or statutory undertakers, the Minister may in any particular case direct that it shall not be necessary to serve notice as aforesaid; but
- (ii) if the Minister so directs in the case of any land, then in addition to publication the notice shall be addressed to “the owners and any occupiers” of the land (describing it) and a copy or copies of it shall be affixed to some conspicuous object or objects on the land;
- (c) . . . . . <sup>F287</sup>

[<sup>F288</sup>(3A) Where under this paragraph any notice is required to be given by any person in respect of any land which is already in a National Park for which a National Park authority is the local planning authority, that person shall serve a copy of that notice on that authority.]

- (4) Where under this paragraph any notice is required to be served on an owner of land and the land [<sup>F289</sup>belongs to an ecclesiastical benefice][<sup>F289</sup>is vested in the incumbent of a benefice of the Church of England], a like notice shall be served on the [<sup>F289</sup>Church Commissioners][<sup>F289</sup>Diocesan Board of Finance for the diocese in which the land is situated].

#### Textual Amendments

- F284** Para. 1(1)(b) repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 6 para. 70**
- F285** Words repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 6 para. 70**
- F286** Words in Sch. 1 para. 1(3)(a) substituted (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 20(4), **Sch. 6 Pt. II para. 15(3)** (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), [Sch. 17 para. 22\(1\), 23\(2\)](#)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 3, **Sch. 1**
- F287** Para. 1(3)(c) repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 6 para. 70**
- F288** Sch. 1 para. 1(3A) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(9)(a)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, [Sch. 8 para. 7](#)); S.I. 1995/2950, art. 2(1)
- F289** Words in Sch. 1 para. 1(4) substituted (E.) (1.10.2006) by [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2006 \(No. 1\)](#), s. 16(2), **Sch. 5 para. 4**; 2006 No. 2, Instrument made by Archbishops

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C88** Para. 1(3)(b) amended by [Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 \(c. 53\)](#), **s. 50(2)(c)**

- 2 (1) If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Minister may, if he thinks fit, confirm or make the order, as the case may be, with or without modifications.
- (2) If any representation or objection duly made is not withdrawn, the Minister shall, before confirming or making the order, as the case may be, if the objection is made by a local authority cause a local inquiry to be held and in any other case either—
- (a) cause a local inquiry to be held, or

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

- (b) afford to any person by whom any representation or objection has been duly made and not withdrawn an opportunity of being heard by a person appointed by him for the purpose,

and, after considering the report of the person appointed to hold the inquiry or to hear representations or objections, may confirm or make the order, as the case may be, with or without modifications:

F290

[<sup>F291</sup>(2A) In sub-paragraph (2) “local authority” does not include—

- (a) in relation to an order designating a National Park in England, a parish council, or
- (b) in relation to an order designating a National Park in Wales, a community council.]

- (3) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the Minister shall not confirm or make an order so as to affect land not affected by the order as submitted to him or the draft order prepared by him, as the case may be, except after—

- (a) giving such notice as appears to him requisite of his proposal so to modify the order, specifying the time (not being less than twenty-eight days) within which and manner in which representations or objections with respect to the proposal may be made;
- (b) holding a local inquiry or affording to any person by whom any representation or objection has been duly made and not withdrawn an opportunity of being heard by a person appointed by him for the purpose; and
- (c) considering the report of the person appointed to hold the inquiry or to hear representations or objections, as the case may be,

F292

- (4) Where, in the case of an access order, it is [<sup>F293</sup>represented by the Environment Agency (as respects England), the Natural Resources Body for Wales (as respects Wales), or a][<sup>F294</sup>water undertaker] that any land comprised in the order as submitted to the Minister or in the draft order prepared by him, as the case may be (or, where notice of a proposed modification has been given under head (a) of the last foregoing sub-paragraph, any land to which the proposed modification relates), should be excluded from the operation of the order on the ground that by reason of—

- (a) the proximity of the land to any reservoir used for the purposes of [<sup>F295</sup>the statutory undertaking carried on by that Authority or, as the case may be, undertaker], or
- (b) any other physical factor affecting the flow of water from the land into any such reservoir,

the operation of section sixty of this Act as respects that land would be likely to involve danger to the purity of the water supply which could not be prevented by the taking of any reasonable measures, sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph, or head (c) of the last foregoing sub-paragraph, as the case may be, shall have effect in relation to that representation as if it provided for the consideration of the report therein referred to by the Minister . . . <sup>F296</sup>

- (5) If, as the result of any representations or objections considered, or inquiry or other hearing held, in connection with the confirmation of an order designating a National

*Changes to legislation:* National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Park or the making of an order varying such an order, the Minister is of opinion that [<sup>F297</sup>Natural England,] the [<sup>F298</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales][<sup>F299</sup>a National Park authority,], a [<sup>F300</sup>county planning authority][<sup>F301</sup>or, in Wales, the local planning authority] or any other person ought to be consulted before he decides whether to confirm or make the order either with or without modifications, he shall consult [<sup>F302</sup>Natural England, the [<sup>F298</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales], authority or other person but, subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (3) of this paragraph, shall not be under any obligation to consult any other person, or to afford any opportunity for further representations or objections or to cause any further inquiry or other hearing to be held.

### Textual Amendments

- F290** Para. 2(2) proviso repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 6 para. 70**
- F291** Sch. FIRST para. 2(2A) inserted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), **ss. 60(5), 107(3)(b)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F292** Words repealed by [Highways Act 1959 \(c. 25\)](#), **Sch. 25** and [London Government Act 1963 \(c. 33, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 6 para. 70**
- F293** Words in Sch. 1 para. 2(4) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 25(2)** (with Sch. 7)
- F294** Words beginning “the National Rivers Authority” substituted (E.W.) by [Water Act 1989 \(c. 15, SIF 130\)](#), ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)–(10), 190, 193(1), Sch. 25 para. 13(3)(a), Sch. 26 paras. 3(1)(2), 17, 40(4), 57(6), 58
- F295** Words beginning “the statutory undertaking” substituted (E.W.) by [Water Act 1989 \(c. 15, SIF 130\)](#), ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)–(10), 190, 193(1), Sch. 25 para. 13(3)(b), Sch. 26 paras. 3(1)(2), 17, 40(4), 57(6), 58
- F296** Words omitted by virtue of [S.I. 1951/753 \(1951I, p. 1354\)](#), art. 7(2)
- F297** Words in Sch. 1 para. 2(5) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 25(a)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)
- F298** Words in Sch. 1 para. 2(5) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 25(3)** (with Sch. 7)
- F299** Words in Sch. 1 para. 2(5) inserted (1.4.1996) by [1995 c. 25, s. 78](#), **Sch. 10 para. 2(9)(b)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7); S.I. 1995/2950, art. 3
- F300** Words substituted by virtue of [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70, SIF 81:1\)](#), **Sch. 17 para. 41**
- F301** Words in Sch. 1 para. 2(5) inserted (1.4.1996) by [1994 c. 19, s. 20\(4\)](#), **Sch. 6 Pt. II para. 15(3)** (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), Sch. 17 para. 22(1), 23(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 3, **Sch.**
- F302** Words in Sch. 1 para. 2(5) substituted (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), s. 107, **Sch. 11 para. 25(b)**; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

3 As soon as may be after any such order as is mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Schedule has been confirmed or made by the Minister, the authority by whom the order was made, or, in the case of an order made by the Minister, the Minister, shall publish, in the manner required in relation to the class of order in question by sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule, a notice in the prescribed form describing the effect of the order, stating that it has been confirmed or made, and naming a place where a copy thereof as confirmed or made may be inspected at all reasonable hours, and—

- (a) where under the said sub-paragraph (3) notice was required to be served, shall serve a like notice and a copy of the order as confirmed or made on any persons on whom notices were required to be served under that sub-



**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

paragraph or under sub-paragraph [<sup>F303</sup>(3A) or] (4) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule; and

- (b) where under the said sub-paragraph (3) a notice was required to be displayed, shall cause a like notice to be displayed in the like manner as the notice required to be displayed under that sub-paragraph:

Provided that no such notice or copy need be served on a person unless he has sent to the authority or Minister (according as the notice or copy would require to be served by an authority or by the Minister) a request in writing in that behalf specifying an address for service.

#### Textual Amendments

**F303** Words in Sch. 1 para. 3(a) inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(9)(c)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, **Sch. 8 para. 7**); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2(1)**

[<sup>F304</sup>3A An order designating a National Park shall have effect as from such time as may be determined by the Minister and specified in the notice of the confirmation of that order.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F304** Sch. 1 para. 3A inserted (23.11.1995) by 1995 c. 25, s. 78, **Sch. 10 para. 2(9)(d)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, **Sch. 8 para. 7**); S.I. 1995/2950, **art. 2(1)**

4 (1) The Minister may, subject to the provisions of this Part of this Schedule, by regulations make such provision as to the procedure on the submission and confirmation of orders to which this Part of this Schedule applies as appears to him to be expedient.

(2) ..... <sup>F305</sup>

(3) In this Part of this Schedule the expression “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Minister.

#### Textual Amendments

**F305** Sch. 1 Pt. I para. 4(2) repealed by Highways Act 1959 (c. 25), **Sch. 25** and London Government Act 1963 (c. 33, SIF 81:1), **Sch. 6 para. 70**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C89** Sch. 1 para. 4 functions transferred (W.) (24.5.2018) by The Welsh Ministers (Transfer of Functions) Order 2018 (S.I. 2018/644), arts. 1(1), **6(d)**

PART II. .... <sup>F306</sup> **E+W**

#### Textual Amendments

**F306** Sch. 1 Pt. II repealed by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41), **Sch. 5**

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

### PART III E+W

#### *Provisions as to validity of orders, and of certain maps and statements prepared under Part IV of this Act*

- 8 If any person desires to question the validity of an order to which Part I . . . <sup>F307</sup> of this Schedule applies on the ground that it is not within the powers of this Act, or on the ground that any requirement of this Act or of any regulation made thereunder has not been complied with in relation to the making or confirmation of the order, he may, within six weeks after the date of publication of notice of the confirmation or making of the order in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Schedule in that behalf, make an application to the High Court; and on any such application the court—
- (a) may by interim order suspend the operation of the order, either generally or in so far as it affects the applicant, until the final determination of the proceedings; and
  - (b) if satisfied that the order is not within the powers of this Act or that the interests of the applicant have been substantially prejudiced by a failure to comply with any such requirement as aforesaid, may quash the order either generally or in so far as it affects the applicant.

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F307** Words repealed by [Countryside Act 1968 \(c. 41, SIF 46:1\)](#), [Sch. 5](#)

- 9 (1) If any person desires to question the validity of a definitive map prepared under Part IV of this Act on the ground that the map is not within the powers of this Act, or on the ground that any requirement of this Act or of any regulation made thereunder has not been complied with in relation to the preparation of the map, or of any draft or provisional map on which that map is based, he may, within six weeks after the date of publication of notice of the preparation of the map in accordance with the provisions of the said Part IV in that behalf, make an application to the High Court; and on any such application the court, if satisfied that the map is not within the powers of this Act, or that the interests of the applicant have been substantially prejudiced by a failure to comply with any such requirement as aforesaid, may make an order declaring that, notwithstanding anything contained in the said Part IV, the definitive map shall not be conclusive evidence of any such matter as may be specified in the order.
- (2) References in this paragraph to a definitive map, or to a draft or provisional map, shall be construed as including references to a revised map prepared in definitive form, or to a revised map prepared in draft or provisional form, as the case may be; references therein to a map shall be construed as including references to any statement required by the provisions of Part IV of this Act to be annexed to the map; and for the purposes of this paragraph a map shall be deemed to be based on another map if the particulars contained in the former map are required by the said provisions to be the particulars contained in the latter map as modified in accordance with those provisions.
- 10 Subject to the provisions of the two last foregoing paragraphs, an order, map, or statement to which either of those paragraphs applies shall not, either before or after it has been confirmed, made or prepared, be questioned in any legal proceedings whatsoever, and any such order map or statement shall become operative on the date

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

on which notice of the confirmation, making or preparation thereof is published as mentioned in those paragraphs respectively.

- 11 Paragraphs 8 and 10 of this Schedule shall not apply to an order which is confirmed by Act of Parliament under section six of the <sup>M47</sup>Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 and shall have effect in relation to any other order which is subject to special parliamentary procedure by virtue of paragraph 2 . . . <sup>F308</sup> of this Schedule as if for the reference in the said paragraph 10 to the date therein mentioned there were substituted a reference to the date on which the order becomes operative under the said Act.

#### Textual Amendments

**F308** Words repealed by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **Sch. 5**

#### Marginal Citations

**M47** 1945 c. 18.

## [<sup>F309</sup>SCHEDULE 1A **E+W**

### COASTAL ACCESS REPORTS

#### Textual Amendments

**F309** **Sch. 1A** inserted (12.11.2009 for specified purposes, 12.1.2010 in so far as not already in force) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), s. 324(1)(c)(d)(2)(d), **Sch. 19** (with s. 308)

#### *Introductory*

- 1 In this Schedule—
- (a) “coastal access report” means a report submitted under section 51 pursuant to the coastal access duty;
  - (b) references to a fair balance are references to a fair balance between—
    - (i) the interests of the public in having rights of access over land, and
    - (ii) the interests of any person with a relevant interest in the land,(to which section 297(3) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (general duties in connection with the coastal access duty) refers).

#### *Advertising etc of coastal access reports*

- 2 (1) Natural England must—
- (a) advertise a coastal access report, and
  - (b) take such steps as are reasonable to give notice of the report to persons within sub-paragraph (2).
- (2) Those persons are—
- (a) persons with a relevant interest in affected land;
  - (b) each access authority for an area in which affected land is situated;

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- (c) each local access forum for an area in which affected land is situated;
  - (d) the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England;
  - (e) the Environment Agency;
  - (f) such other persons as may be specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- (3) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about—
- (a) the form and manner in which reports are to be advertised under sub-paragraph (1)(a);
  - (b) the form and manner in which notices are to be given under sub-paragraph (1)(b);
  - (c) the timing of any advertisement or the giving of any notice.

*Objections by persons with relevant interest in affected land*

- 3 (1) Any person who has a relevant interest in affected land may make an objection to Natural England about a coastal access report.
- (2) For the purposes of this Schedule an objection is not an admissible objection unless it—
- (a) satisfies the conditions in sub-paragraphs (3) and (4), and
  - (b) is made in accordance with any requirements imposed by regulations under sub-paragraph (7)(b).
- (3) The first condition is that the objection is made on the ground that the proposals in the report, in such respects as are specified in the objection, fail to strike a fair balance as a result of one or more of the following—
- (a) the position of any part of the proposed route;
  - (b) the inclusion of proposals under subsection (2) of section 55B or the nature of any proposal under that subsection;
  - (c) the inclusion of, or failure to include, an alternative route under section 55C(2) or the position of any such alternative route or any part of such a route;
  - (d) the inclusion of, or failure to include, proposals under one or more of paragraphs (a) to (c) of section 55D(2) or the nature of any proposal made under such a paragraph;
  - (e) the inclusion of, or failure to include, a proposal under section 55D(5) or the terms of any such proposal;
  - (f) the exercise of a discretion conferred by section 301(2) or (3) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, or failure to exercise a discretion conferred by section 301(3) of that Act, in relation to a river.
- (4) The second condition is that the objection specifies the reasons why the person making the objection is of the opinion that a fair balance is not struck as a result of the matter or matters within sub-paragraph (3)(a) to (f).
- (5) An objection under this paragraph may propose modifications of the proposals in the report if the person making the objection considers—
- (a) that those modifications would remedy, or mitigate the effects of, the failure to strike a fair balance to which the objection relates, and
  - (b) that the proposals as so modified would satisfy the requirements of sub-paragraph (6).

---

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (6) Modified proposals satisfy the requirements of this sub-paragraph if what they propose—
- (a) is practicable,
  - (b) takes account of the matters mentioned in section 297(2), and (where appropriate) section 301(4), of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (matters to which Natural England and the Secretary of State must have regard when discharging the coastal access duty), and
  - (c) is in accordance with the scheme approved under section 298 of that Act (the scheme in accordance with which Natural England must act when discharging the coastal access duty) or, where that scheme has been revised, the revised scheme.
- (7) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about—
- (a) the steps to be taken by Natural England to make persons with an interest in affected land aware of their entitlement to make objections under this paragraph;
  - (b) the form and manner in which, and period within which, objections are to be made.

#### *Referral of objections to the appointed person*

- 4 (1) Natural England must send to the Secretary of State a copy of any objection received under paragraph 3 about a coastal access report.
- (2) The Secretary of State must refer any objection received under sub-paragraph (1) to a person appointed by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this Schedule (“the appointed person”).
- (3) An appointment under sub-paragraph (2)—
- (a) must be in writing;
  - (b) may relate to any particular objection specified in the appointment or to objections of a description so specified;
  - (c) may provide for a payment or payments to be made to the appointed person.
- (4) An appointment under sub-paragraph (2) may, by notice in writing given to the appointed person, be revoked at any time by the Secretary of State in respect of any objection if the appointed person has not, before that time, given the Secretary of State a report containing a recommendation under paragraph 11 in relation to the objection.
- (5) Where the appointment of the appointed person is revoked in respect of any objection, the Secretary of State must appoint another person under sub-paragraph (2) to deal with the objection afresh under this Schedule.
- (6) Nothing in sub-paragraph (5) requires any person to be given an opportunity to make fresh representations or comments or to modify or withdraw any representations or comments already made.

#### *Determination of admissibility of objections*

- 5 Where an objection is referred under paragraph 4(2), the appointed person must—
- (a) determine whether the objection is an admissible objection, and

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- (b) give notice of that determination, together with the reasons for it, to—
  - (i) the person who made the objection,
  - (ii) the Secretary of State, and
  - (iii) Natural England.

#### *Admissible objections*

- 6 (1) Where Natural England is notified under paragraph 5(b) that an objection is an admissible objection, it must send to the Secretary of State its comments on the objection.
- (2) A notice under paragraph 5(b) that an objection is an admissible objection may require Natural England to include in its comments under sub-paragraph (1)—
  - (a) either—
    - (i) an outline of any relevant alternative modifications of the proposals in the coastal access report, or
    - (ii) if Natural England considers there are no such modifications, a statement to that effect;
  - (b) if an outline is included under paragraph (a)(i), an assessment of the effects of the relevant alternative modifications on the interests of the public in having rights of access over land and the interests of any person with a relevant interest in affected land;
  - (c) either—
    - (i) an outline of any relevant rejected proposals which were considered by Natural England in connection with the preparation of the coastal access report and of its reasons for rejecting them, or
    - (ii) if there are no such proposals, a statement to that effect;
  - (d) information of such other description as the appointed person may specify in the notice under paragraph 5(b), being information which the appointed person considers to be material for the purpose of making a determination under paragraph 10(2).
- (3) In this paragraph, a reference to relevant alternative modifications of the proposals is to modifications of the proposals which Natural England considers—
  - (a) might reasonably be regarded as relevant for the purpose of determining—
    - (i) whether, in the respects identified in the objection, the proposals in the report strike a fair balance, or
    - (ii) whether any modification of those proposals would produce proposals that strike a fair balance or mitigate the effects of any failure to strike a fair balance,
  - (b) are materially different from any modifications included in the objection under paragraph 3(5), and
  - (c) would, if made, result in proposals which satisfy the requirements of paragraph 3(6)(a) and (c).
- (4) In this paragraph, a reference to relevant rejected proposals is to proposals which, if to be given effect to, would require modifications to be made of the proposals in the coastal access report which—
  - (a) are materially different from—
    - (i) any modifications included in the objection under paragraph 3(5), and



---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

- (ii) any relevant alternative modifications outlined in Natural England's comments on the objection, and
- (b) would be relevant alternative modifications but for a failure to satisfy the requirement of paragraph 3(6)(a).

#### *Representations about reports*

- 7 (1) Representations about a coastal access report may be made by any person to Natural England.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about—
- (a) the steps to be taken by Natural England to make persons aware of their entitlement to make representations under this paragraph;
  - (b) the form and manner in which, and period within which, representations are to be made.
- 8 (1) Natural England must send to the Secretary of State—
- (a) a copy of any representations made by a person within paragraph 2(2)(b) to (f) about a coastal access report,
  - (b) a summary of any other representations made about the report, and
  - (c) Natural England's comments on representations within paragraph (a) or (b).
- (2) In this paragraph references to representations are to representations made under paragraph 7 in accordance with any requirements imposed by regulations under paragraph 7(2)(b).

#### *Reference of objection to the appointed person*

- 9 (1) This paragraph applies where the Secretary of State is notified under paragraph 5(b) that an objection made about a coastal access report is an admissible objection.
- (2) The Secretary of State must send to the appointed person the relevant documents in relation to the objection.
- (3) The relevant documents are—
- (a) a copy of the coastal access report to which the objection relates,
  - (b) a copy of Natural England's comments on the objection received under paragraph 6,
  - (c) a copy of any representations received under paragraph 8(1)(a) about the coastal access report, so far as those representations appear to the Secretary of State to be relevant to the objection,
  - (d) if there are such representations, a copy of Natural England's comments on them received under paragraph 8(1)(c),
  - (e) if a summary of representations about the coastal access report has been received under paragraph 8(1)(b), a copy of any part of the summary which appears to the Secretary of State to be relevant to the objection, and
  - (f) if there is such a part, a copy of Natural England's comments on the representations to which the part relates received under paragraph 8(1)(c).

#### *Consideration of objections by appointed person*

- 10 (1) This paragraph applies where the appointed person—

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- (a) has determined that an objection about a coastal access report is an admissible objection, and
  - (b) has received, under paragraph 9, the relevant documents in relation to the objection.
- (2) The appointed person must determine whether the proposals set out in the report fail, in the respects specified in the objection, to strike a fair balance as a result of the matter or matters within paragraph 3(3)(a) to (f) specified in the objection.
- (3) If the appointed person is minded to determine that the proposals fail to strike a fair balance, the appointed person must comply with sub-paragraphs (4) and (5) before making such a determination.
- (4) The appointed person must publish a notice containing—
  - (a) details of the objection and Natural England's comments on it under paragraph 6,
  - (b) a statement that the appointed person is minded to determine that the proposals fail to strike a fair balance, and
  - (c) an invitation to submit to the appointed person representations about—
    - (i) the objection (including any modifications of the proposals proposed by the objection),
    - (ii) any relevant alternative modifications contained in Natural England's comments on the objection under paragraph 6, and
    - (iii) any observations which the appointed person has made in the notice regarding any such relevant alternative modifications or any modifications proposed by the objection.
- (5) The appointed person must give a copy of that notice to—
  - (a) Natural England;
  - (b) any person with a relevant interest in—
    - (i) affected land to which the objection relates, or
    - (ii) land which is not affected land but would be such land if any of the modifications referred to in sub-paragraph (4)(c)(i) or (ii) were made to the proposals;
  - (c) any person within paragraph 2(2)(b) to (f).
- (6) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about—
  - (a) the form and manner in which notices are to be published or given under this paragraph,
  - (b) the timing of the publication or giving of notices under this paragraph, and
  - (c) the form and manner in which, and period within which, representations are to be made in response to an invitation in a notice under this paragraph.
- (7) The appointed person may require the Secretary of State, at the Secretary of State's expense—
  - (a) to discharge the appointed person's duty to publish or give a notice under this paragraph;
  - (b) to receive on behalf of the appointed person any representations made in response to an invitation in a notice under this paragraph and forward such representations to the appointed person.

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

*Recommendations of the appointed person*

- 11 (1) Where a determination is made in respect of an objection under paragraph 10(2), the appointed person must give the Secretary of State a report which—
- (a) sets out that determination, and
  - (b) makes one or more recommendations in accordance with this paragraph.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (3) applies if the appointed person concludes under paragraph 10(2) that the proposals do not fail, in the respects specified in the objection, to strike a fair balance as a result of any of the matters within paragraph 3(3)(a) to (f) specified in the objection.
- (3) The appointed person must recommend that the Secretary of State makes a determination to that effect.
- (4) Sub-paragraphs (5) and (7) apply if the appointed person concludes that the proposals fail, in the respects (or certain of the respects) specified in the objection, to strike a fair balance as a result of one or more of the matters within paragraph 3(3)(a) to (f) specified in the objection.
- (5) The appointed person must determine whether there are any modifications of the proposals which would meet the coastal access requirements.
- (6) For the purposes of this paragraph, modifications meet the coastal access requirements if they—
- (a) remedy the failure to strike a fair balance identified by the objection, and
  - (b) produce proposals which satisfy the requirements of paragraph 3(6).
- (7) The appointed person must—
- (a) recommend that the Secretary of State determines that the proposals fail, in one or more of the respects specified in the objection, to strike a fair balance but that there is no modification which would satisfy the coastal access requirements,
  - (b) recommend that, if minded to approve the proposals, the Secretary of State approves the proposals with modifications of a kind described in the recommendation, being modifications which the appointed person considers would meet the coastal access requirements, or
  - (c) recommend that, if minded to approve the proposals, the Secretary of State considers whether modifications of a kind described in the recommendation would meet the coastal access requirements.
- (8) Where a report contains a recommendation under sub-paragraph (7)(a), the appointed person may include in the report—
- (a) a recommendation that, if minded to approve the proposals, the Secretary of State should approve the proposals with modifications of a kind described in the recommendation, being modifications which the appointed person considers would mitigate the effects of the failure to strike a fair balance, or
  - (b) a recommendation that, if minded to approve the proposals, the Secretary of State should consider whether modifications of a kind described in the recommendation would mitigate the effects of the failure to strike a fair balance.
- (9) Sub-paragraph (10) applies where, in a case to which sub-paragraph (4) applies, the appointed person also determines that the proposals do not fail, in the respects (or

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

certain of the respects) specified in the objection, to strike a fair balance by reason of one or more of the matters within paragraph 3(3)(a) to (f) specified in the objection.

- (10) The appointed person must recommend that the Secretary of State makes a determination to that effect (in addition to any recommendation under sub-paragraph (7) or (8)).
- (11) A report under this paragraph must also set out the appointed person's reasons for any recommendation contained in the report.

#### *Information and documents*

- 12 (1) The appointed person may give Natural England a notice requiring it to provide the appointed person with information or documents—
  - (a) which is or are in the possession of Natural England, and
  - (b) which the appointed person reasonably requires for the purpose of exercising functions under this Schedule.
- (2) Natural England must send the Secretary of State a copy of any information or document provided by it in response to a notice under sub-paragraph (1).
- (3) The appointed person may give the Secretary of State a notice requiring the Secretary of State to provide the appointed person with—
  - (a) a copy of any coastal access report specified in the notice which the appointed person reasonably requires for the purpose of exercising functions under this Schedule;
  - (b) any information in the possession of the Secretary of State which the appointed person reasonably so requires.

#### *Holding of local inquiries and other hearings by appointed person*

- 13 (1) Where the appointed person considers it necessary or expedient to do so, the appointed person may hold a local inquiry or other hearing in connection with the consideration of an objection under this Schedule.
- (2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), the costs of a local inquiry or other hearing held under this paragraph are to be defrayed by the Secretary of State.
- (3) Subsections (2) to (5) of section 250 of the Local Government Act 1972 (local inquiries: evidence and costs) apply to local inquiries or other hearings held under this Schedule by the appointed person as they apply to inquiries caused to be held under that section by a Minister, but as if—
  - (a) in subsection (2) (evidence) the reference to the person appointed to hold the inquiry were a reference to the appointed person,
  - (b) in subsection (4) (recovery of costs of holding the inquiry)—
    - (i) references to the Minister causing the inquiry to be held were references to the appointed person, and
    - (ii) references to a local authority were references to Natural England, and
  - (c) in subsection (5) (orders as to the costs of the parties) the reference to the Minister causing the inquiry to be held were a reference to the appointed person.

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

*Supplementary provision about procedure in connection with objections*

- 14 (1) Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the Secretary of State may, by regulations, make provision about the consideration of objections by the appointed person.
- (2) Such regulations may, in particular, include—
- (a) provision enabling two or more objections, in the circumstances specified in the regulations, to be considered by the appointed person together;
  - (b) provision enabling the appointed person to conduct an inspection of any land;
  - (c) provision about the procedure for the conduct of local inquiries and other hearings.

*Preliminary consultation*

- 15 (1) The Secretary of State may, by regulations, make provision about the procedure to be followed where, before determining whether or not to approve the proposals in a coastal access report (with or without modifications), the Secretary of State wishes—
- (a) to identify or investigate possible modifications of the proposals to which it might be appropriate to give further consideration, and
  - (b) to consult persons for the purposes of identifying or investigating such modifications.
- (2) Regulations under this paragraph may, in particular, apply any provision of this Schedule (with or without modifications).

*Determinations under section 52*

- 16 (1) Before making a determination under section 52 in respect of a coastal access report, the Secretary of State must consider—
- (a) any objection about the report which the appointed person has determined is an admissible objection,
  - (b) Natural England's comments under paragraph 6 on any such objections,
  - (c) any report under paragraph 11 in respect of any such objection,
  - (d) any representations made about the coastal access report, or summary of such representations, and any comments on those representations, received under paragraph 8, and
  - (e) any information or document a copy of which is sent to the Secretary of State under paragraph 12(2).
- (2) The power under section 52 to approve proposals contained in a report submitted under section 51 pursuant to the coastal access duty includes a power to approve those proposals (with or without modifications) so far as they relate to one or more parts of the route only, and reject the remaining proposals.
- (3) Where a report required to be considered under sub-paragraph (1)(c) contains a statement of a finding of fact, the Secretary of State in making the determination is bound by that finding unless the Secretary of State is satisfied—
- (a) that the finding involves an assessment of the significance of a matter to any person with a relevant interest in land or to the public,
  - (b) that there was insufficient evidence to make the finding,

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- (c) that the finding was made by reference to irrelevant factors or without regard to relevant factors, or
  - (d) that the finding was otherwise perverse or irrational.
- (4) The Secretary of State may, by regulations, make provision about the procedure to be followed where the Secretary of State is minded to approve proposals with modifications other than modifications made in accordance with a recommendation under paragraph 11(7)(b) or (c) or (8)(a) or (b).
- (5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (4) a modification is to be regarded as made in accordance with a recommendation under paragraph 11(7)(b) or (c) or (8)(a) or (b) if it is not materially different from a modification which could be so made.
- (6) Regulations under sub-paragraph (4) may, in particular, apply any provision of this Schedule (with or without modifications).
- (7) Any requirement imposed by virtue of sub-paragraph (4) is in addition to the duty to consult imposed by section 52(1).

#### *Notice of determinations under section 52*

- 17 (1) Where the Secretary of State makes a determination under section 52 in respect of a coastal access report, the Secretary of State must, as soon as reasonably practicable, comply with this paragraph.
- (2) The Secretary of State must—
- (a) take reasonable steps to give notice of the determination to persons with a relevant interest in affected land, or
  - (b) if the Secretary of State considers it appropriate, publish a notice of the determination in such manner as the Secretary of State considers likely to bring it to the attention of those persons.
- (3) The Secretary of State (in addition to complying with section 52(2)) must give notice of the determination to—
- (a) any body of a kind mentioned in section 52(2) in whose Park or area affected land is situated (but which is not required to be notified under section 52(2)),
  - (b) any London borough council for an area in which affected land is situated,
  - (c) any local access forum for an area in which affected land is situated,
  - (d) the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England, and
  - (e) the Environment Agency.
- (4) Where the Secretary of State was required under paragraph 16(1)(a) to consider an objection when making the determination, a statement of the reasons for the determination (so far as relevant to the objection) must be included in—
- (a) any notice given or published under sub-paragraph (2),
  - (b) any notification of the determination under section 52(2), and
  - (c) any notice given under sub-paragraph (3).
- (5) Where the Secretary of State was required under paragraph 16(1)(c) to consider a report and the Secretary of State in making the determination does not follow a recommendation in the report, the statement of reasons required by sub-paragraph (4) must also include the reasons for not following the recommendation.

---

**Changes to legislation:** National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

### Interpretation

#### 18 In this Schedule—

- “admissible objection” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 3(2);
- “the appointed person” has the meaning given by paragraph 4(2);
- “coastal access report” has the meaning given by paragraph 1(a);
- “fair balance” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 1(b);
- “relevant alternative modifications” has the meaning given by paragraph 6(3);
- “the relevant documents”, in relation to an objection, has the meaning given by paragraph 9(3).]

## SECOND SCHEDULE E+W

### GENERAL RESTRICTIONS TO BE OBSERVED BY PERSONS HAVING ACCESS TO OPEN COUNTRY OR WATERWAYS BY VIRTUE OF PART V OF ACT

#### 1 Subsection (1) of section sixty of this Act shall not apply to a person who, in or upon the land in question,—

- (a) drives or rides any vehicle;
- (b) lights any fire or does any act which is likely to cause a fire;
- (c) takes, or allows to enter or remain, any dog not under proper control;
- (d) wilfully kills, takes, molests or disturbs any animal, bird or fish or takes or injures any eggs or nests;
- (e) bathes in any non-tidal water in contravention of a notice displayed near the water prohibiting bathing, being a notice displayed, and purporting to be displayed, with the approval of the local planning authority;
- (f) engages in any operations of or connected with hunting, shooting, fishing, snaring, taking or destroying of animals, birds or fish, or brings or has any engine, instrument or apparatus used for hunting, shooting, fishing, snaring, taking or destroying animals, birds or fish;
- (g) wilfully damages the land or anything thereon or therein;
- (h) wilfully injures, removes or destroys any plant, shrub, tree or root or any part thereof;
- (i) obstructs the flow of any drain or watercourse, opens, shuts or otherwise interferes with any sluice-gate or other apparatus, breaks through any hedge, fence or wall, or neglects to shut any gate or to fasten it if any means of so doing is provided;
- (j) affixes or writes any advertisement, bill, placard or notice;
- (k) deposits any rubbish or leaves any litter;
- (l) engages in riotous, disorderly or indecent conduct;
- (m) wantonly disturbs, annoys or obstructs any person engaged in any lawful occupation;
- (n) holds any political meeting or delivers any political address; or
- (o) hinders or obstructs any person interested in the land, or any person acting under his authority, in the exercise of any right or power vested in him.



---

**Changes to legislation:** *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949* is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

- 2        In the application of the foregoing provisions of this Schedule to waterways,—
- (a)    for references to land there shall be substituted references to a waterway;
  - (b)    sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 1 of this Schedule shall not apply;  
         and
  - (c)    sub-paragraph (f) of the said paragraph 1 shall have effect as if the words  
         from “or brings” to the end of the sub-paragraph were omitted.

**Changes to legislation:**

National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- Pt. 5 restricted by [2000 c. 37 s. 46\(2\)](#)
- s. 16(5)(b) words substituted by [2024 asp 2 Sch. 1 para. 3\(a\)](#)
- s. 16(5)(b) words substituted by [2024 asp 2 Sch. 1 para. 3\(b\)](#)