



Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 37

PART I

ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE

CHAPTER II

EXCLUSION OR RESTRICTION OF ACCESS

24 Land management.

- (1) ^[F1]The relevant authority may make a land management direction in relation to any land (“the designated land”).
- (1A) The relevant authority may exercise their powers under subsection (1)—
- (a) in any case, on the application of any person interested in the designated land, and
 - (b) if the designated land is coastal margin, without any such application having been made.
- (1B) A land management direction is a direction which—
- (a) where the designated land is coastal margin—
 - (i) excludes or restricts access to the designated land during a specified period, or
 - (ii) authorises a specified person to exclude or restrict in the manner specified in the direction access to the designated land, or to such part or parts of that land as the specified person may determine in accordance with the direction, during a specified period, and
 - (b) in any other case, excludes or restricts access to the designated land during a specified period.
- (1C) The relevant authority may not make a land management direction unless—

Changes to legislation: *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, Section 24 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 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) in the case of a direction within subsection (1B)(a), they are satisfied that the exclusion or restriction under this section of access to the designated land to the extent provided for in or by the direction is necessary for the purposes of the management of the designated land or any adjoining land;
 - (b) in the case of a direction within subsection (1B)(b), they are satisfied that the exclusion or restriction under this section of access to the designated land to the extent provided by the direction is necessary for the purposes of the management of the land by the applicant.
- (1D) Before making a land management direction under subsection (1B)(a) in a case where an application has not been made under subsection (1A)(a), the relevant authority must take reasonable steps to consult any person who—
- (a) holds an estate in fee simple absolute in possession in the designated land (or any part of it),
 - (b) holds a term of years absolute in that land (or any part of it), or
 - (c) is in lawful occupation of that land (or any part of it).
- (1E) Subsection (1D) does not apply if the direction is made in accordance with section 55F(2) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (directions set out in report approving proposals for English coastal route).
- (1F) The reference in subsection (1B)(a) to a specified period includes a reference to—
- (a) a specified period in every calendar year;
 - (b) a period which is to be determined by the relevant authority in accordance with the direction;
 - (c) a period which is to be determined by a specified person in accordance with the direction and, where the direction so requires, notified to the relevant authority by the specified person in accordance with the direction;
 - (d) an indefinite period.]
- (2) The reference in [F²subsection (1)][F²subsection (1B)(b)] to a specified period includes a reference to—
- (a) a specified period in every calendar year, or
 - (b) a period which is to be—
 - (i) determined by the applicant in accordance with the direction, and
 - (ii) notified by him to the relevant authority in accordance with regulations under section 32(1)(d).
- (3) In determining whether to any extent the exclusion or restriction under this section of access by virtue of section 2(1) during any period is necessary for the purposes of land management, the relevant authority shall have regard to—
- (a) the existence of the right conferred by section 22,
 - (b) the extent to which the applicant has exercised or proposes to exercise that right, and
 - (c) the purposes for which he has exercised or proposes to exercise it.
- (4) Where an application under this section relates to land which is not access land at the time when the application is made, the relevant authority shall not give a direction under this section unless they are satisfied that it is likely that the land will be access land during all or part of the period to which the application relates.

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[^{F3}(5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not apply in relation to land management directions under subsection (1B)(a).

(6) In this section references to access to land are to access by virtue of section 2(1).]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 24(1)-(1F) substituted for s. 24(1) (E.) (6.4.2010) by [The Access to the Countryside \(Coastal Margin\) \(England\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/558\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 18(2)**
- F2** Words in s. 24(2) substituted (E.) (6.4.2010) by [The Access to the Countryside \(Coastal Margin\) \(England\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/558\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 18(3)**
- F3** S. 24(5)(6) added (E.) (6.4.2010) by [The Access to the Countryside \(Coastal Margin\) \(England\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/558\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 18(4)**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Blanket amendment words substituted by [S.I. 2011/1043 art. 34](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 15(1)(e) and word inserted by [2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 179](#)
- s. 55A inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 20](#)
- s. 56A inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 21](#)
- s. 56B inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 22\(1\)](#)