



# National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

1949 CHAPTER 97 12 13 and 14 Geo 6

## PART VI

GENERAL, FINANCIAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY

### *General powers and duties of Commission*

**85 General duty of [<sup>F1</sup>Natural England and the [<sup>F2</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]] to advise on questions relating to natural beauty.**

Without prejudice to [<sup>F3</sup>their respective duties] relating to National Parks, it shall be the duty of [<sup>F4</sup>Natural England][<sup>F5</sup>and the [<sup>F2</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales]]—

- (a) . . . . .<sup>F6</sup>
- (b) in circumstances where it appears to the Minister and to [<sup>F4</sup>Natural England], or, as the case may be, to the Minister and to the [<sup>F2</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>F4</sup>Natural England][<sup>F7</sup>(as respects England) or to the [<sup>F2</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] (as respects Wales)] to be likely to be prejudicial thereto.

#### Textual Amendments

**F1** 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.)

**F2** 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)

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, Cross Heading: General powers and duties of Commission. (See end of Document for details)*

- F3** 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**
- F4** Words in s. 85 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.)
- F5** 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**
- F6** S. 85(a) repealed by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **Sch. 5**
- F7** 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>F8</sup>Natural England].

- (1) It shall be the duty of [<sup>F9</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 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>F10</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>F11</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

- F8** 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.)
- F9** 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.)
- F10** Word inserted by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **s. 21(4)**
- F11** 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)

- C1** S. 86 extended by Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41, SIF 46:1), **s. 12(1)**

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, Cross Heading: General powers and duties of Commission. (See end of Document for details)

---

**[<sup>F12</sup>86A Information services to be provided by [<sup>F13</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales].**

The provisions of section eighty-six of this Act shall apply to the [<sup>F13</sup>Natural Resources Body for Wales] in relation to National Parks and other land in Wales as they apply to [<sup>F14</sup>Natural England] in relation to National Parks and other land in England.]

**Textual Amendments**

- F12** 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**
- F13** 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)
- F14** 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:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, Cross Heading: General powers and duties of Commission.