



Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 37

PART I

ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE

CHAPTER II

EXCLUSION OR RESTRICTION OF ACCESS

25 Avoidance of risk of fire or of danger to the public.

- (1) The relevant authority may by direction exclude or restrict access by virtue of section 2(1) in relation to any land during a specified period if the authority are satisfied—
- (a) that, by reason of any exceptional conditions of weather or any exceptional change in the condition of the land, the exclusion or restriction under this section of access to the land by virtue of section 2(1) to the extent provided by the direction is necessary for the purpose of fire prevention, or
 - (b) that, by reason of anything done, or proposed to be done, on the land or on adjacent land, the exclusion or restriction under this section of access to the land by virtue of section 2(1) to the extent provided by the direction is necessary for the purpose of avoiding danger to the public.

[^{F1}(1A) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply in relation to land which is coastal margin if it is—

- (a) land over which the line of an approved section of the English coastal route, an official alternative route or a temporary route passes, or
 - (b) land which is adjacent to and within 2 metres either side of such a line.]
- (2) The reference in subsection (1) to a specified period includes a reference to—
- (a) a specified period in every calendar year, and
 - (b) a period which is to be—
 - (i) determined by a specified person in accordance with the direction, and

Changes to legislation: *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, Section 25 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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*

- (ii) notified by him to the relevant authority in accordance with regulations under section 32(1)(d).^{F2}, and
 - (c) in the case of a direction relating to land which is coastal margin, 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.]
- (3) The relevant authority may exercise their powers under subsection (1) on the application of any person interested in the land, or without any such application having been made.
- (4) In determining on an application made by a person interested in the land whether the condition in subsection (1)(a) or (b) is satisfied, 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.
- (5) 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.
- ^{F3}(6) Nothing in subsection (4) or (5) applies in relation to land which is coastal margin.
- (7) In this section—
- “approved section of the English coastal route” means a route (other than an official alternative route) in relevant approved proposals (within the meaning of section 3A);
 - “official alternative route” has the meaning given by section 55J of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949;
 - “temporary route” means a route for the time being having effect by virtue of a direction under section 55I of that Act]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 25(1A) inserted (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. 19(a)**
- F2** S. 25(2)(c) and word 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. 19(b)**
- F3** S. 25(6)(7) 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. 19(c)**

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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\(1\)](#)