

Status: This version of this provision is prospective.

Changes to legislation: Deregulation Act 2015, Section 26 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 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



Deregulation Act 2015

2015 CHAPTER 20

Use of land

PROSPECTIVE

26 Public rights of way: procedure

- (1) Schedule 7 makes changes to the law about the ascertainment of public rights of way in England and the making and confirmation of orders relating to such rights.
- (2) Part 1 of the Schedule amends Part 3 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (“the 1981 Act”) so as to—
 - (a) alter the test that applies where a local authority is deciding whether to modify a definitive map and statement on the basis of evidence relating to the existence of a right of way not currently shown on the map;
 - (b) enable regulations to be made to simplify the procedure that applies where a modification of a definitive map and statement is needed because of an administrative error;
 - (c) enable regulations to be made so that applications made to a local authority seeking a modification of a definitive map and statement do not need to be included in the register of applications unless the authority have given notice that there is a reasonable basis for the applicant's belief that the map should be modified;
 - (d) facilitate the making of modifications of a definitive map and statement by consent in cases based on documentary evidence of the existence of a right of way before 1949.
- (3) Part 2 of the Schedule inserts a new Schedule 13A in Part 3 of the 1981 Act, which sets out an amended procedure that applies in relation to the making and determination of applications to a local authority in England for a modification of a definitive map and statement.

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- (4) Part 3 of the Schedule inserts a new Schedule 14A in Part 3 of the 1981 Act, which sets out an amended procedure that applies in relation to the making and confirmation of orders making modifications of a definitive map and statement.
- (5) Part 4 of the Schedule amends Schedule 6 to the Highways Act 1980 so as to make changes to the procedure for the making and confirmation of public path creation orders and certain other orders relating to public paths in England.
- (6) Part 5 of the Schedule makes amendments that are consequential on the other Parts.
- (7) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for an amendment made by paragraph 5 of Part 1 or by Part 2 or 3 of Schedule 7 to apply, in relation to applications for an order under section 53(2) of the 1981 Act that are made before the amendment comes into force, with modifications specified in the regulations.
- (8) Regulations under subsection (7) may make different provision for different purposes.
- (9) Regulations under subsection (7) must be made by statutory instrument.
- (10) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (7) is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

Extent Information

- E1** [S. 26\(1\)-\(6\)](#) extends to England and Wales and Scotland; [s. 26\(7\)-\(10\)](#) extends to England and Wales only

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2015/994 art. 13 Sch. by [S.I. 2015/1405 art. 2\(3\)](#)

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

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

- s. 110A inserted by [2016 c. 12 s. 16\(1\)](#)