Defence Infrastructure Organisation

SECTION 28 DIRECTION JUSTIFICATION FORM

1. MOD HOLDING:	Willsworthy Range, Dartmoor
2. TLB:	Army
3. REGION:	Defence Training Estate SW
4. DATE OF REVIEW:	17/10/2022
	SHORT TERM DATES:
	LONG TERM DATES:
5. S28 TERM	INDEFINITE: X

6. DESCRIPTION OF SITE:

Willsworthy Range forms part of the Dartmoor Training Area (DARTA). It is the only part of the DARTA that is freehold. The extremely small areas to which a s28 is being applied are the fragments within the Danger Area that fall outwith the byelaw area. The landscape is typical of upland Dartmoor consisting of heather and grass moorland, granite outcrops and deep river valleys.

7. HECTARAGE OF DIRECTION: 30.52 8. DESCRIPTION OF MILITARY USE:

The Willsworthy Training Area complex consists of three fixed firing ranges. Live field firing takes place across Willsworthy and there are positions for artillery and mortars to fire from. Dry training also takes place across the whole of the DARTA.

9. CURRENT PUBLIC ACCESS:

When the Willsworthy Range Byelaws (1980) are not enacted the public has a right of open access on foot and horse under the Dartmoor Commons Act 1985 and public access agreement between the Secretary of State for Defence and Dartmoor National Park Authority dated 3 Jan 2017. When live firing is undertaken red flags and lamps are flown and Range Wardens patrol the areas to control public access.

Public rights of way remain open when the Willsworthy byelaws are not in operation but are closed during live firing for purposes of public safety during defence activities. DARTA firing times are advertised locally and on Gov.uk.

10. REASON FOR DIRECTION (tick all relevant)

Training efficiency	X	National Security	
Training safety	X		
Public Safety	X	Other	

Please provide justification:

1. This is a case of access land mapped within a defined Range Danger Area. All access land within Danger Area must remain subject to restriction in the interest of public safety during defence activity.

2. MOD intends to create byelaws for this area under the current byelaw review programme resulting in this land being permanently excepted from CROW access legislation. Any proposals for byelaws will be subject to public consultation.

11. ORIGINATOR:		12. COMMAND REVIEW BY:				
13. DIO REVIEW:		14. LMS REVIEW BY:				
15. MAP ATTACHED:	YES X	NO				
16. RELEVANT ACCESS AUTHORITY:						
Dartmoor National Bark Authority						
Dartmoor National Park Authority						
Tel. 01626 831057 Email:						
17. LOCAL ACCESS FORUM INFO	RMED:					
Destroor National Dark Authority						
Dartmoor National Park Authority,						
Email:						
18. ADDITONAL COMMENTS:						
19. NAME OF DESIGNATED OFFICER:						
– DIO Senior Access and Recreation Advisor						
		DATE				
20. SIGNATURE ON REVIEW COM	PLETION:	DATE:				
[E-signed]		21 st October 2022				