

Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

NOTICE OF RELEVANT AUTHORITY DECISION FOLLOWING REVIEW OF DIRECTION RESTRICTING CROW ACCESS RIGHTS

Prepared by Natural England

1. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Access Authority: Nottinghamshire County Council
Relevant Authority: Natural England
Local Access Forum: Nottinghamshire LAF

Land Parcel Name	Direction Reference	Details of restriction on original direction
Budby Heath (part of Birklands & Bilhaugh Site of Special Scientific Interest)	2005100069	Direction given under section 26(3)(a) restricting dogs to short leads from 1 August to 31 August each year until 31 August 2015, to protect ground nesting birds, specifically nightjar.

Natural England has now decided how to proceed following its review of the above mentioned long-term direction to restrict CROW Access rights on this land. A consultation has been held between 1 June and 29 June 2015 with statutory consultees and the general public. We received feedback from the RSPB and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust supporting the extension of the current restriction.

Outcome of the review:

The existing restriction extends the national restriction on CROW access land for dogs to be on a short lead between 1 March and 31 July each year through to the end of August each year. This is to protect ground nesting birds from disturbance from dogs, specifically to protect nesting nightjars on the heathland rearing young from a second clutch of eggs.

Following consultation, Natural England agrees that the restriction is still necessary, and therefore Natural England's decision is to vary the direction by extending its end date.

Natural England's policy for long term directions is that they should not be given for a period of more than 6 years. Therefore the original direction will be varied to have an end date of 31 August 2021.

Summary of changes made to the existing direction:

Land Parcel Name:	Details of restriction on original direction:	New details of direction:
Budby Heath (part of Birklands & Bilhaugh Site of Special Scientific Interest)	Direction given under section 26(3)(a) restricting dogs to short leads from 1 August to 31 August each year until 31 August 2015	Direction given under section 26(3)(a) restricting dogs to short leads from 1 August to 31 August each year until 31 August 2021

Details of the restriction will appear on the relevant map of access land on the Open Access website - www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk.

Where a direction restricts access indefinitely, for more than five years, for part of every year, or for part of at least six consecutive years, we have a statutory duty to review it within five years of the date of its issue.

Date review completed: 6 August 2015