

## **Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000:**

### **NOTICE OF RELEVANT AUTHORITY DECISION FOLLOWING REVIEW OF DIRECTION RESTRICTING CROW ACCESS**

**Prepared by the South Downs National Park Authority**

**Access Authority:** South Downs National Park Authority  
**Relevant Authority:** South Downs National Park Authority  
**Local Access Forum:** South Downs Local Access Forum

**Direction reference:** 2006040060  
**Grid reference:** SU 608 294

<b>Land Parcel Name</b>	<b>Details of restriction on original direction</b>
Cheriton Wood, Hampshire	Direction to exclude the public from Cheriton Wood for a period of six years. The direction may operate for up to 210 days annually between 1st July and 1st February. The direction was given for reasons of public safety and land management, specifically game bird management. 28 March 2011 to 27 March 2017

**Date of direction notice:** 16 January 2017

The South Downs National Park Authority 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 second consultation has been held between 19th September 2016 and 17th October 2016 with statutory consultees and the general public. No feedback was received.

#### **Outcome of the review:**

The South Downs National Park Authority's decision is to vary the direction to extend it for a further six years.

The site is a 91 ha privately owned woodland which is managed as a pheasant shoot. A long term direction was given in 2006 to allow the exclusion of public access from the time the pheasant poults are released to the end of the final shoot.

During this review in 2016 it has been found that there has been little or no change to the land management regime since 2006. There remains a requirement to minimise disturbance to the game birds caused by visitors in areas used by birds from the time they

are released to the end of the shooting season, and to maintain public safety while shooting is taking place.

The South Downs Local Access Forum has no strong opinion against the existing arrangement and recommends its extension for a further six years with the proviso that during this time the National Park Authority explores with the landowner options for improved public access. The Authority proposes to enter a dialogue with the landowner to ensure that future public access to the site adheres to the least restrictive option.

The restriction is still necessary for its original purpose, and its extent and nature are still appropriate. Guidance for long term directions is that they should not be given for a period of more than six years. The exclusion for up to 210 days annually between 1st July and 1st February will be extended for another six years, and the direction will be varied to have an end date of 27th March 2023.

**Summary of changes made to the existing direction:**

Land Parcel Name	Details of restriction on original direction	New details of restriction
Cheriton Wood, Hampshire	Direction to exclude the public from Cheriton Wood for a period of six years. The direction may operate for up to 210 days annually between 1st July and 1st February. The direction was given for reasons of public safety and land management, specifically game bird management. 28 March 2011 to 27 March 2017	Direction to exclude the public from Cheriton Wood for a period of six years. The direction may operate for up to 210 days annually between 1st July and 1st February. The direction is given for reasons of public safety and land management, specifically game bird management. 28 March 2017 to 27 March 2023

Details of the restriction will appear on the relevant map of access land on the Open Access website - [www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk).

The applicant has the right to appeal within six weeks against a decision not to act in accordance with the application originally submitted. Only the applicant can appeal against this decision. Details of any appeal will appear on the Planning Inspectorate’s website at [www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/countryside/countryside](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/countryside/countryside).

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, there is an obligation to review it within five years of the date of its issue.

Date review completed: 15 December 2016