

Notes on making an objection about a coastal access report

Only owners, tenants or occupiers of affected land may make an objection about a coastal access report.

Objections must be made on the correct form (there is a different form for representations). You can obtain a copy of the form online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-improving-public-access-to-the-coast> or by contacting us at the address at the end of these notes.

If you wish to make more than one objection about only one land parcel (or several adjoining ones), please use the same form. If you wish to make objections about separate land parcels, please complete a different form for each land parcel.

The notes below will help you answer the questions on the form. For further information about making objections and representations please refer to Defra's guidance which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/england-coast-path-comment-on-a-proposed-new-stretch>

Question 1 asks for the number of the chapter and map which relates to the land about which you are making the objection. *For example: 'Chapter 2, Map 4a'.*

Question 2: Please clearly identify the land to which the objection relates here. If your objection is about the route, please write the number(s) of the relevant route section(s) here. Route section numbers are shown on the maps in the report. *For example: 'Route section SMT-01-S001'.* If your objection is not about the route, please write a description of the land and the number(s) of the route section(s) closest to it. *For example: 'field seaward of route sections SMT-2-S016 to SMT-2-S020'.* You may also wish to send a separate map showing the land – see question 8.

Question 3 asks you to describe your interest in the land. *For example: 'owner of freehold' or 'farm tenant'.* Only owners, tenants or occupiers of affected land may make an objection about a coastal access report. Paragraph 5.2 of Defra's guidance explains in more detail what this means.

Question 4 asks you to specify one of the statutory grounds for objections labelled (a) to (f). Annex A of Defra's guidance explains what this means but in summary the grounds relate to:

- (a) The position of any part of the proposed route shown on the map(s)
- (b) Where we have proposed (or not proposed) that the route should "roll back" in response to erosion or other forms of coastal change, or the nature of our proposal
- (c) Where we have proposed (or not proposed) an alternative route (in addition to the ordinary route), or the position of the alternative route or any part of it.

- (d) Where we have proposed (or not proposed) that the landward boundary of the coastal margin should coincide with a physical feature such as a fence or wall, or the nature of our proposal
- (e) Where we have proposed (or not proposed) an access exclusion or restriction, or the nature of our proposal
- (f) Where we have proposed (or not proposed) to extend the route to any point between the open coast and the first public foot crossing point on a river.

Question 5 asks you to explain why you object to the proposals on the grounds you have indicated in question 4. Please send additional documents if you need to – see question 8.

Question 6 asks you to indicate if you wish to propose a modification to the proposals. Paragraph 5.11 of Defra’s guidance explains more about this.

Question 7 asks you to describe any modification you propose and explain why it would strike a fair balance between public and private interests in the land. Please send additional documents if you need to – see question 8.

Question 8: If there is not enough room on the form for all the information you wish to include, you can send additional information with the form. Please write a description of each additional document you send on this part of the form. *For example: ‘Document 1- additional information in answer to question 5; Document 2 – map of land to which the objection relates’*

Please also label any separate documents or attachments in a way that enables us to match it to your objection form. *For example: ‘Objection – Mrs J. Smith – SMT-1-S001 - Document 2: map of land to which objection relates’*

Please send objections (and any additional supporting information) by email or post to the addresses shown on the form. We will send you an acknowledgement when we receive your objection. If you do not receive acknowledgement, or if you have any further queries about the objections process, please contact us at:

Coastal Access Delivery Team - North East

Natural England, Mail Hub, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP.

Telephone: 0300 060 3900

Email: northeastcoastalaccess@naturalengland.org.uk