

Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

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

Prepared by Natural England

Access authority: Lancashire County Council
Relevant authority: Natural England
Local access forum: Lancashire Local Access Forum

Land Parcel Name	Direction Reference	Details of restriction on original direction
Boulsworth Hill	2009020073	Land Management: Disturbance to live quarry - dogs to be kept on a lead from 1 st August to 10 th December
Boulsworth Hill 1	2009020075	Land Management: Disturbance to live quarry - dogs to be kept on a lead from 1 st August to 10 th December
Halstead, Catlow, Lambhill, Croasdale, Whitendale, Brennand, Sykes, Hareden, Saddle End Farms	2009020076	Land Management: Disturbance to live quarry - dogs to be kept on a lead from 1 st August to 10 th December
Longridge Fell	2009020077	Land Management: Disturbance to live quarry - dogs to be kept on a lead from 1 st August to 10 th December

Natural England has now decided how to proceed following its review of the long-term directions to restrict open access rights on this land.

A consultation was held with statutory consultees and the general public from 26th February to 15th March seeking views on the current restrictions. We received a representation, from a member of Lancashire Local Access Forum, concerning the lack of off-road access, within the area, as vehicular access falls within General Restrictions of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW Act) it falls outside of the scope of this review.

Outcome of the review

Natural England's decision is to leave the original direction unchanged in the way it was originally proposed and extend the end date for a further six years.

Boulsworth Hill and Boulsworth Hill 1

The original application to restrict access was submitted in late 2004 by representatives for the tenants who hold shooting rights on the two sites.

The decision, taken by Natural England, was to keep dogs on leads during the period from 1st August to 10th December each year, extending the national "dogs on leads" restriction to cover the shooting season.

The directions have been subsequently reviewed, three times, with a decision each time to maintain the current restrictions.

Following discussions with the applicant and land owner in relation to these restrictions they have both confirmed that the circumstances remain unchanged since the last review in 2019.

In summing up, based on the research available and on speaking to the applicant, land owner, and other interested parties, Natural England, as the relevant authority considers that the current restrictions are still required.

Natural England's policy for long term directions is that they should not be given for a period of no more than 6 years. Therefore, the original directions will be varied to have an end date of 5th April 2030.

Halstead, Catlow, Lambhill, Croasdale, Whitendale, Brennand, Sykes, Hareden, Saddle End Farms and Longridge Fell

An application was first submitted in 2005 by United Utilities (UU). UU is the landowner for these land parcels.

After detailed discussions with a range of parties including the applicant, local authority and the Moorland Association it was agreed that a direction to restrict

access should be made. The decision was to keep dogs on leads during the period from 1st August to 10th December each year, extending the national “dogs on leads” restriction to cover the shooting season.

The directions have been subsequently reviewed, three times. with a decision each time to maintain the current restrictions.

Following discussions with the applicant in relation to these restrictions they have confirmed that the circumstances remain unchanged since the last review in 2019.

In summing up, based on the research available and on speaking to the applicant and other interested parties, Natural England’, as the relevant authority considers that the current restrictions are still required.

Natural England’s policy for long term directions is that they should not be given for a period of no more than 6 years. Therefore the original directions will be varied to have an end date of 5th April 2030.

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: 26th March 2024.