

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

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

Direction reference: 2005100069

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 2021 To protect ground nesting birds, specifically nightjar

Natural England has now decided how to proceed following its review of the above mentioned direction to restrict open access rights on this land. A consultation has been held between 7 August 2020 and 7 September 2020 with statutory consultees and the general public. We received feedback from the RSPB, Thoresby Estate and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.

In summary all three organisations support the extension of the current restriction. The RSPB also requested that the restriction be extended indefinitely rather than being reviewed every 5 years however the review is a statutory requirement under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Outcome of the review:

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

It is necessary to restricting dogs to short leads from 1 August to 31 August each year for nature conservation to protect ground nesting birds, specifically nightjar.

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 2026.

Date review completed: 16 September 2020.