

Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

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

Prepared by Sarah Haigh, Natural England

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

| Open Access land parcel name | Direction reference | Details of direction restricting access |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Holme Bird Observatory | 2005040189 | Exclusion of access rights until further notice for the purpose of land management, given under Section 24 of the CROW Act 2000. |

Natural England has now decided how to proceed following its review of the above mentioned long-term direction restricting CROW access rights on this site in Norfolk.

A consultation was held between 11 July and 23 August 2022 with statutory consultees and the general public. We received feedback from the Norfolk Ornithologists' Association, Norfolk LAF, the Ramblers and one individual, all supporting the existing exclusion of CROW access rights.

Summary of circumstances

Holme Bird Observatory is situated on land owned by the National Trust and is managed by the Norfolk Ornithologists' Association. The site is accessible by the public as long as they are members or purchase a day permit.

To enable Holme Bird Observatory to continue to operate as it did prior to CROW legislation, a direction was given excluding CROW access rights to allow the existing permit system for public access to continue, and also to allow visitor management to continue unimpeded.

Outcome of the review

Natural England's decision is to leave the original direction unchanged in the way it was originally proposed.

Details of the restriction appears 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: 25 August 2022