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SUMMARY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY (CROW) Act 2000

PROPOSAL FOR A LONG-TERM DIRECTION RESTRICTING ACCESS

MARCH 2023

1. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Access Authority: Peak District National Park Authority
Relevant Authority: Peak District National Park Authority
Local Access Forum: Peak District Local Access Forum

Land Parcel Name:	Direction Ref.
Silence & Old Grove Mines, Great Hucklow	2018088745

The Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) as Relevant Authority is proposing to extend the duration of the above direction until 30 April 2025 or until the completion of remediation in connection with geotechnical investigations, to the satisfaction of the PDNPA as the Mineral Planning Authority, whichever is the sooner.

As the restriction of public access on this land is proposed to last for longer than six months continuously, public consultation is required to inform the proposal.

2. SUMMARY OF EXISTING & PROPOSED DIRECTION

Land Parcel Name:	Dates of Restriction	Reason for Exclusion
Silence & Old Grove Mines, Great Hucklow	Existing Direction – 30 April 2023 Proposed Direction – 30 April 2025	Public Safety

The National Park Authority made a direction under section 25(1) of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 in February 2018 and extended most recently in April 2022, to restrict public access at Silence and Old Grove Mines on the grounds of public safety relating to the instability of the land. The direction expires on or before 30 April 2023.

The land comprises the former lead mine workings known as Silence and Old Grove Mines; an area used as a paddock, and the hillside to the east of the former lead mine workings and south of the Bretton Edge road. The land is remote, steeply sloping and undulating, with areas of rough grassland, woodland and scrub. A short surfaced path leads from the road entrance to the building remains and interpretation panels at the former lead mining site. Otherwise, access is relatively informal with some areas showing more use than others and the land being used to connect with nearby closed public rights of way and the road.

The PDNPA, as Mineral Planning Authority, have commissioned geotechnical investigations into the instability at this site and are considering the conclusions and recommendations of the report received. This includes the approval and implementation of reinstatement works. Pending this, it is necessary to protect the safety of the public by extending the temporary closure of the land.

Having regard to the continuing evidence of instability, potential contributory factors, and the nature and character of the land, PDNPA is satisfied that a restriction of CRow access to the extent identified is necessary on public safety grounds. It is considered that a further extension of up to two years would be an appropriate period of time for the identification and rectification of instability and for the monitoring of this.

This direction shall cease to have effect on 30 April 2025 or, if earlier, the date on which PDNPA as Mineral Planning Authority approves completion of the necessary remediation, having regard to the outcome of the geotechnical investigations undertaken by the PDNPA as the Mineral Planning Authority and an associated monitoring period. In the event of the instability being more extensive or requiring more extensive remediation or monitoring, the direction shall be further reviewed.

3. SUBMITTING COMMENTS ABOUT THE PROPOSED DIRECTION

Reference:	Comments to:
Silence & Old Grove Mines – 2018088745	sue.smith@peakdistrict.gov.uk

If you wish to comment on this direction then please do so before **14 April 2023**. A map accompanies this notice and can be seen on the [Consultation Pages](#).

Using and sharing your consultation responses

We may wish to pass any comments you make or information to others in connection with our duties and powers under the open access legislation. This may mean for example passing information, including your name and contact details, to the Secretary of State or their appointees, the Planning Inspectorate or to Natural England.

We do not plan to publish individual comments in full, but we may publish extracts from them when we report on our consultation(s).

There may also be circumstances in which we will be required to disclose your response to third parties, either as part of the statutory process for consideration of representations and objections about our decision, or in order to comply with our wider obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please explain clearly why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. However, we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.