

Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

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

Prepared by DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Access authority: DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Relevant authority: DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Local access forum: DARTMOOR ACCESS FORUM

Direction reference: 2005050806

Land Parcel Name	Direction Reference	Details of restriction on original direction
West Dart River Valley	2005050806	Dogs on leads at all times

Dartmoor National Park Authority has now decided how to proceed following its review of the long-term direction to restrict open access rights on this land. A consultation was held between 20 October 2023 and 15 November 2023 with statutory consultees and the general public. We received feedback from a number of consultees including:

- Dartmoor Access Forum
- Open Spaces Society
- Ramblers
- Kennel Club

In summary the feedback was as follows:

Unanimous support for maintenance of the restrictions including from Dartmoor Access Forum (statutory advisor on access to countryside), Open Spaces Society, Ramblers and the Kennel club. It was highlighted that the current level of restriction meets both the needs of nature and the access rights permitted by the public without significant detriment to either.

Outcome of the review:

Dartmoor National Park Authority's decision is to maintain the current restriction on CROW access in the West Dart Valley. This means there will be a requirement for dogs to be kept on leads at all times within the restriction zone.

The Authority is mindful of pursuing the least restrictive approach when managing access and has concluded that the current level of restriction should be maintained as this offers an adequate level of protection for nature conservation while limiting any inconvenience to the public.

Natural England's policy for long-term directions is that they should not be given for a period of more than six years. Therefore the original direction will be extended to an end date of 12 December 2029.