

The Institution of Environmental Sciences

The professional body for environmental scientists
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COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000: PROPOSALS FOR REGULATIONS ON THE EXCLUSION OR RESTRICTIONS OF ACCESS

The following are the comments of the Institution of Environmental Sciences on the above Consultation Paper.

Whilst this Consultation Paper relates primarily to procedural issues on which we have no comment there are areas where provisions have not been made which we feel should be covered in some way.

Section 4 has no mention of access arrangements to entry points though this could be a problem area.

Increased public access will inevitably create additional visitor traffic to the points of entry to the 'access' with a potential nuisance value. Routes identified for use by persons with disabilities will almost certainly require traffic to the point of entry. Adequate and safe approach roads, parking facilities, signing, etc. may be needed but not necessarily available or made available. Directions under Sections 24 or 25 on this point would be desirable.

Proposal 8 might also have some relevance to this issue as consultations with local access forums to determine potential problems and identify solutions would be constructive.

Section 6 on information to the public is also relevant and should include guidance on signing and controlling notices that might be required in approaches to access routes.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. R. A. Fuller
Hon. Secretary