

The process of consultation and analysis of representations on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Report on the outcome of the consultation on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code

This report provides the context for the Proposed Code submitted to Ministers under the terms of Section 10 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003

**SCOTTISH
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REPORT 1

THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AND ANALYSIS OF REPRESENTATIONS ON THE DRAFT SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

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draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code

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INTRODUCTION

Background

1. On 25th February 2003, the Land Reform (Scotland) Act received Royal Assent. Part 1 of this Act (also referred to as the access legislation) establishes new statutory rights of public access to the outdoors – rights that come with responsibilities. These rights, however, cannot come into effect until guidance on the responsibilities in the form of a Scottish Outdoor Access Code has been approved by the Scottish Parliament. Thereafter, and following approval of Ministerial guidance to local authorities under Section 27 of the Act on the exercise of their new powers and duties, a commencement date for the access legislation can be set.
2. Under Section 10 of the access legislation, Scottish Natural Heritage (hereafter referred to as SNH) has a duty to draw up and issue a code, to be known as the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (also referred to as the Access Code). For this, and in accordance with Section 10 (2):

‘Scottish Natural Heritage shall consult local authorities and such other persons or bodies as they think appropriate about the proposed Access Code and then submit it (with or without modifications) to Ministers together with copies of any objections or representations made in response to the consultation.’

3. To meet this requirement, SNH undertook a consultation on a draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code between 26th March 2003 and 30th June 2003.

Purpose of report 1

4. The purpose of this report is to record the process of consultation and analysis of representations on the consultative draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The report is one of a suite of reports that has been submitted to Scottish Ministers alongside the proposed Access Code (also referred to as the Proposed Code). The other reports are: Report 2 on the analysis of representations; and Report 3 on the wide issues raised during the consultation process.
5. This report is divided into three:
 - Section 1: outlines the design and adopted process of the consultation and analysis of representations made on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code in order to generate a Proposed Code;
 - Section 2: provides a summary of an independent assessment of how SNH performed in delivering its duty to consult on a draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code;
 - Section 3: is an assessment of the outcomes of the consultation process against the objectives set, an introduction to the wider benefits and a conclusion.

SECTION 1

Design of the consultation process

6. The consultation process was designed to be as open and as wide-ranging as possible to reflect the expectations of the Scottish Parliament and the Executive and to build on good practice from recent consultations notably those on the establishment of National Parks. Three objectives underpinned the design as follows:
 - Objective 1: to meet statutory requirements. Under the access legislation Scottish Natural Heritage is required **to consult local authorities and other persons and bodies as they think appropriate about the draft Access Code.** But given that, in Parliament, MSP's and the Minister made it clear that there should be a very extensive consultation it was evident that the widest possible engagement should be the target.
 - Objective 2: to be inclusive. Access to the outdoors is an integral part of Scotland's traditions and the new statutory rights of responsible access have far reaching implications for both recreation users and land managers. The basis of the new legislation is founded on responsibility rather than regulation – and accords with the Executive's policies for civic responsibility. A commitment to responsibility brings obligations to engage civic society widely in consultation over what is expected of people in exercising new rights. SNH's second objective was then **to undertake the consultation in a way that would provide a very wide range of people with the opportunity to comment on the consultative draft of the Access Code.**
 - Objective 3: to be open and accountable. SNH is committed to being open and accountable and would wish to ensure that the consultation reflected this corporate commitment. To this end, the final third objective for the consultation, was **to undertake it in a way in which responses and how SNH had reacted to them would be open and transparent.**
7. In designing the consultation process, a number of factors/constraints had to be taken into account, namely that:
 - the consultation on the draft Code followed on from a contentious piece of legislation (consultation on the draft Bill had received over 3000 submissions) and some organisations and individuals were likely to use the consultation on the draft Code as an opportunity to seek to retrieve matters for their interest through influencing how the access legislation might be implemented;
 - the level of awareness and knowledge of the access legislation amongst the general public and some interest groups was low;
 - there was a perception that there were only limited opportunities to revise the Access Code, given that its purpose and its main content was set out in the legislation and had been carefully presented in working-draft negotiated through the national Access Forum as part of the wider package associated with the access legislation; and

- a consultation that was as locally resource intensive as that for the two National Parks could not be sustained by SNH over the whole of the country.

Adopted consultation process

8. Building on appropriate best practice experience gained from undertaking previous public consultations¹, a five stage process of informing, engaging, analysing, drafting and reporting was designed:
 - Stage 1: to inform as wide an audience as possible that the consultation is underway;
 - Stage 2: to engage with as wide an audience as possible in discussion, and generate responses;
 - Stage 3: to analyse representations and responses made;
 - Stage 4: to generate a Proposed Access Code; and
 - Stage 5: to report on the process.
9. It was also recognised from the outset that a comprehensive consultation would also have wider benefits in helping to raise awareness of the new legislation and therefore act as a foundation for SNH's subsequent duties to publicise and promote understanding of the Access Code.
10. A consultative draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code was prepared by SNH following lengthy consideration by the national Access Forum. This forum provided SNH with advice from a cross section of interests closely concerned with access to the outdoors.

Stage 1 - Informing

11. Stage 1 - the launch and information phase involved the following activities:

- Holding a press conference at Muiravonside Country Park, Linlithgow on Wednesday 26 March 2003 at which the SNH Vice Chairman formally launched the consultation. This event included a press release and briefing which was picked up by national, regional and local press.
- Advertising the consultation period in national press. Adverts, to promote the consultation to the wider public, were placed in national and regional press over the period 28 – 30 March 2003, and again between 30 May – 1 June. The aim of the advert – incorporating an innovative design containing a teddy bear with boots on a pink background - was to draw attention to the consultation, to prompt people to contact SNH to find out more, and to alert them of the deadline for submitting responses.

¹ Scottish Natural Heritage has undertaken three extensive public consultations related to National Parks: *National Parks for Scotland* in 1998; *The Proposal for a Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park* in 2000/01; and the *Proposal for a Cairngorms National Park* in 2001, along with a number of other consultations on matters such as Natural Heritage Futures, the Introduction of Beavers, on National Scenic Areas and Access.

- Placing the consultation document, with supporting information sheets on the access legislation and the consultation process (see Annex 1), on the SNH website. A range of other websites also agreed to include a link from their site to the Access page on SNH's site to increase its accessibility.
- Sending the consultative draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code to all local authorities and a very wide range of other interested organisations and individuals (a contacts database had been developed by merging held SNH databases on previous consultations with other data specifically gathered). Over 4,000 letters with enclosed copies of the draft Code were issued between 26 and 28 March 2003, and subsequent distribution led to in excess of 20,000 copies of the main consultation document being sent to interested organisations and individuals. The consultation document was also available in large print on request.
- Distributing in excess of 400,000 copies of a short information leaflet introducing the consultation process on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code to a wide range of organisations (also made available in Gaelic on the SNH website). These organisations had been invited to display and distribute the leaflet to people using their own resources (such as ranger service premises, membership mailing lists, visitor attractions etc) to attract further comments on the consultative draft of the Code. Organisations receiving the information leaflet covered the spectrum of interests in the target audiences identified for SNH's access education programme, namely:
 - the general public;
 - land and water managers;
 - recreation managers;
 - dog owners;
 - active recreational pursuits;
 - outdoor clubs and associations;
 - commercial recreation interests;
 - education providers; and
 - visitors to Scotland.
- Responding to requests for copies of the consultation document generated by the adverts, the leaflet and other promotion of the consultation. The total number of requests logged between 21 February and 27 July was 1,609 and this resulted in the despatch of 4,920 copies of the consultation document and 44,796 copies of the information leaflet.
- Briefing partners through hosting three Regional Workshops. Countryside and Access staff in a range of organisations supported by SNH attended three Regional Workshops to improve their awareness and understanding of the draft Code and the consultation process. These were held in Inverness, Lanark and Perth in early April and provided an opportunity for comment on both the consultation process and the draft Code.

Stage 2 - Engaging

12. Once the public and interested organisations and individuals had been informed that the consultation process was taking place by the extensive cascade of information, the next stage was to encourage people to make comments on the draft of the Code by the following means:

- Encouraging partners to advertise, distribute and consider the consultation document through their networks. Countryside and Access staff who attended the three Regional Workshops were encouraged to consider ways of using their own contacts and networks of communication to engage additional people in the consultation process. This resulted in a widening of the distribution of the information leaflet to specific groups and at a range of events. For example, agricultural shows, family fun days organised by a local authority, farmers' markets, schools' sponsored walks, and local walking festivals were used as ways of spreading the message. Press Releases, where appropriate, for such local events also mentioned the consultation process, along with an SNH contact number / website address.
- Developing a range of support materials to assist partners in cascading the information on the consultation process. This included: a poster; an outline presentation for talks; and templates for press releases.
- Facilitating 'on-line' discussion on the SNH website through use of a forum - this was the first time this medium has been used directly on the SNH website. Over 400 postings were placed on the website during the consultation period. Detail of the threads of this discussion is outlined in Annex 2.
- Using the Paths for All Partnership to assist SNH to facilitate discussion at local access forums. Approximately 35 discussions were held, including those at forums in development and other similar access groups. Details of meetings that were open to the public were advertised on SNH's website and in local press.
- Holding public meetings/surgeries (approx 54 held). As local access forums do not have a comprehensive geographical coverage (the majority are located in the central belt), SNH used other events or organised special meetings as a means of informing the public of the consultation and of engaging other interests in considering the issues in the draft Code. Events were held in a range of locations, for example, Orkney, Caithness, Portree, Pitlochry, Glasgow, Aviemore and Ayr. Details of these other open events were advertised on SNH's website and in local press.
- Holding one-to-one meetings with key partners (approx 11 held). Bi-lateral meetings were held with:
 - British Waterways
 - British Horse Society Scotland
 - Forestry Commission and the forestry industry
 - Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park
 - National Farmers' Union Scotland

- RSPB
 - Scottish Water
 - sportscotland, Glenmore Lodge
- Including the draft Code as a specific agenda item of other meetings (approximately 30).
 - Responding to requests to attend meetings (approximately 16 meetings were attended). Requests for discussion on the issues in the draft Code were initially directed to and incorporated into the programme of Local Access Forum meetings and other events. However, where appropriate, SNH responded to needs for facilitated discussion at other meetings.

Detail of the location and nature of this range of meetings is outlined in Annex 3.

- Providing a dedicated help desk to answer questions (approximately 400 received by phone, post and email). This was provided by Recreation and Access Group of Advisory Services although SNH Area staff were briefed on the context, issues and aims of the consultation on the draft Code and were able to respond to many general questions.

Stage 3 - Analysis of representations and responses made on the draft Code

13. The outcome from these stages of informing and engaging was the receipt of 1,362 formal responses to the consultation. A breakdown of the respondents is set out in Annex 4. These responses, along with the many other comments made at meetings and via other forms, were then analysed and used to generate a draft of the Proposed Code.
14. Responses to the consultation varied considerably, both in: their nature (for example, including comments on a range of matters on and outwith the Code); and length (for example, from a few sentences to documents in excess of 50 pages).
15. Given that the consultation process had generated such a wide range of comments and representations, it was important that the analysis process was suitably rigorous. To guide this, four ground rules were borne in mind, namely that:
 - the analysis process would be structured to assist preparation of a Proposed Code that is in accordance with the Act;
 - all representations and comments submitted would be considered equally on their merit;
 - in view of the range and breadth of comments received, it was strength of arguments contained in consultation responses and representations that would dictate the draft of the Proposed Code, as opposed to length or volume of argument; and

- the analysis would be an iterative process and would involve a number of re-drafts of the analysis outputs before a draft Proposed Code could be considered by the Main SNH Board.

16. The analysis process contained four steps:

- Step 1: Collation of respondents' comments. After registration and categorisation of responses, the analysis would build on the questions posed in the consultation document on the draft Code. For this, the key comments in representations were highlighted and collated by a team of SNH staff.
- Step 2: Using the collated comments, issues raised in the representations were identified and grouped. This generated a number of answer categories in relation to each of the questions. This stage also generated an indication of the number of respondents to a particular question (or issue). This numerical side of the analysis could only be indicative because of the scale and varied nature of comments made. However, it did provide useful background for the following stage.
- Step 3: Judgements on the answer categories were then made to inform the revisions that should be made to the draft Code in terms of:
 - a. Accepted – we concur with this answer category or comment and the Proposed Code should take this on board.
 - b. Reflected – the text of the Proposed Code should be adjusted to reflect, but not accept in full, the comments. For these, the points being made were relevant but could not be built directly into the Proposed Code because of the need to balance them with other comments made. In these cases, the comment could only be used in part.
 - c. Rejected - the Proposed Code should not be adjusted, possibly because the comment would affect the accepted or reflected comments or it might be contrary to the Act.
 - d. Managed – whilst the Proposed Code cannot accept or reflect this comment, we recommend that the issue is addressed in consideration of wider implementation issues.
- Step 4: Sections of the draft Code were re-drafted in accordance with the Step 3 judgements.

17. It was evident from these four steps that consideration of the extensive and varied comments and representations received required careful judgement, balancing the nature of the comment made with the sources of that comment, and the number of respondents taking this view. Primarily the comments needed to be considered against the access legislation as passed by Parliament.

Stage 4 - Process for generating a Proposed Access Code

18. Given the complexity and scale, and sometimes contradictory nature, of the comments made and the inter-relationships of many of the points and judgements being drawn from the analysis (many of these judgements made in Step 3 were to 'reflect'), drafting a Proposed Code had to be an iterative and evolving process. Inevitably, changes made to one section had a bearing on other sections and we recognised that consensus could not be reached on some issues. However, we realised that there were benefits to be gained from ongoing dialogue and debate on some issues, and to this end we used the following to inform the process of generating a Proposed Access Code from the analysis process:

- Key issues of contention and redrafted sections of the draft Code were considered by the national Access Forum at its meetings on 19 August, 18 September and 8 October 2003. SNH used advice, tenor and comment from these debates to influence drafting of the Proposed Code.
- A sub-group of SNH's Main Board considered the issues and an initial draft Proposed Code.
- SNH consulted and met with a range of bodies who have statutory responsibilities on issues covered or relevant to the Access Code, and where a clear steer was given, that view was given high importance.
- A working draft Proposed Code was considered by the SNH Main Board at its meeting on 11 November 2003.
- SNH had further discussion with key bodies on contentious issues.
- The final draft of the Proposed Access Code was considered by the SNH Main Board at its meeting on 16 December 2003.

Stage 5 - Reporting

19. Reporting back to respondents on the consultation has taken the form of:

- Acknowledging responses received;
- Making all representations and responses available for public inspection at SNH offices at Battleby, Perth or Anderson Place, Edinburgh from 14 July 2003;
- Issuing a press release on the SNH Main Board discussion on the Access Code on 3 September 2003;
- Issuing a press release when the Proposed Code is submitted to Scottish Ministers; and
- Placing the submitted Proposed Code on the SNH website.

20. The three supporting reports also submitted to Ministers alongside the submitted Proposed Code were also placed on the SNH website. These reports cover:

- The process of consultation and analysis of representations on the draft Code;
- The recommendations and conclusions drawn from the analysis of representations made on the draft Code; and
- Wider issues raised during the consultation on the draft Code that relate to implementation of the access legislation.

21. In addition:

- A summary of the main changes made in the Proposed Code, along with the key points contained in the three reports referred to above, is to be prepared and sent to all those who submitted representations on the draft Code; and
- A leaflet explaining the current status of the access legislation and likely timescale for commencement of the new statutory access rights is to be prepared and distributed widely. This will help to clarify for both users and land managers, when it is appropriate that these rights are exercised. It will also introduce the process of taking the outcome of the consultation forward, including involvement of the national Access Forum and other key partners.

SECTION 2

An independent assessment of the process of consulting on the draft Code

22. Whilst SNH attempted to build on best practice in the design and delivery of the consultation and analysis process it considered it important to have an independent assessment and comment on this work. To this end, Rocket Science UK Ltd was commissioned to provide an independent assessment of the consultation and analysis process. Two reports were produced by Rocket Science UK Ltd.

23. The conclusions of Report 1 by Rocket Science UK Ltd² are:

Conclusions and recommendations

- *The **methodology** was well considered, carefully designed and efficiently implemented and was both practical and effective.*
- *The **documentation** produced was clear about the purpose of the consultation, the issues and principles involved in the legislation and how to respond.*
- *The consultation was effectively **targeted** at the key markets with no obvious omissions.*
- *The **scale of engagement** was encouraging and in our view reached or exceeded any reasonable targets in terms of scope and scale.*
- *In terms of impact, there is some evidence – inevitably limited at present – that **awareness of the legislation and the Code** increased during the timescale of the consultation.*

Our view is therefore that the consultation has satisfied the aim of ‘consulting widely on the development of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code’.

*The subsequent **analysis process** was well designed and staff appear to have been clearly briefed. The system seems to have worked and, if anything, erred on the side of caution in terms of ensuring that views were captured and entered into summary sheets.*

24. We are also encouraged by the other conclusions by Rocket Science Ltd that:

*It is also our view that the consultation provides an example of good practice and **we recommend that the process should be fully documented and disseminated** for use by those carrying out similar kinds of consultation in the future. In particular, this documentation should focus on the following features:*

- *The development of a **detailed and thorough strategy for the process** and its **effective project management**.*
- *The thoughtful way in which the **process was cascaded down** within the organisation and to partner organisations, including the use of Regional Workshops (to create a cadre of individuals well placed to organise local meetings, events and surgeries) and Local Access Forums.*

² DRAFT SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2003, Consultation process: First Report by Richard Scothorne, Rocket Science UK Ltd, 5 November 2003

- *The way in which the process has been **perceived as the start of a much longer process of education**.*
- *The careful and comprehensive **targeting of the communities of interest** which are likely to be directly affected by the interpretation of reasonable behaviour.*
- *The development of a **wide range of different ways** in which individuals and organisations could engage, inquire and comment.*

An independent assessment of the process of analysing representations and responses on the draft Code

25. Report 2 by Rocket Science UK Ltd³ traced a sample of issues raised by responses to the consultation from their source in representations through the four steps of the analysis process to the drafting of the Proposed Code. This report concluded that:

Summary of findings:

- *The process of analysing the significant number of varied responses, reaching judgements about whether and how to change the Draft Guidance and introducing changes in a way which held to the original spirit of the Act was a daunting one. It is not a science but an art and one which requires objectivity, clear criteria and careful judgement. Our view is that the process has taken huge effort and that SNH have carried out this task with sensitivity and care.*
- *The process developed by SNH has **drawn on their experience** in drawing up the responses to the consultations on National Park legislation and specific designation and was even more detailed and rigorous.*
- *It was very **detailed and rigorous**. In practice it may have been too detailed and may not have taken sufficient account of the required form and content of the final document. The final document needed to be clear, appealing and succinct and focus on the principles that would guide behaviour and judgement. It would not have been appropriate to set out many of the detailed points raised by respondents.*
- *The process did establish a **clear ‘audit trail’** leading from individual responses through the analysis in terms of scale and type of responses, through to the summary statement and so to changes in the draft SOAC. We have examined responses to the three key sections of the draft SOAC and we have not found an instance of a valid and widely held view not finding expression in the revised text.*
- *By valid we mean that the view:*
 - *Was about principles and/or helpful guidance and awareness rather than detailed example.*
 - *Was consistent with the spirit and purpose of the Act.*

³ DRAFT SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2003, Consultation process: Second Report by Richard Scothorne, Rocket Science UK Ltd, 3 December 2003

- *Was likely to have a bearing on the reasonable behaviour and judgement of those exercising their right of access / managing land or water and it should be brought to their attention.*

Our Conclusions:

- *There is a **clear and detailed 'audit trail'** leading from the responses, through their detailed analysis, to a summary of the responses, to revisions of the draft SOAC*
- *The **scale of revisions is significant**. While many of the revisions respond to the anxieties of land owners and managers others have responded to different kinds of views (e.g. that the draft did not reflect strongly enough one of the key objectives of the Act which was to enhance the enjoyment of the countryside). But there is clear evidence that the views of respondents have been carefully considered and that the revised SOAC has been significantly refined as a result.*
- *The revisions **reflect the tone and balance** of the responses and focus on the merit of the case made.*
- *The SOAC has been revised in ways that maintain a **strong and appropriate focus on the judgement** of those involved. In other words, the revisions have been worded in ways which can be helpful in reaching judgements or deciding on reasonable behaviour.*
- *The revisions have maintained a **strong focus on the spirit and purpose of the Act**. They do not introduce or imply any additional restrictions but focus on informing those exercising their rights / managing land or water of the factors they need to take into account in coming to a judgement about reasonable behaviour.*
- *The revisions have been incorporated in a way which has **maintained the clarity and relative simplicity** of the draft SOAC. While it remains a relatively large document SNH have avoided the temptation to introduce a lot of detailed guidance based around a huge range of examples offered by respondents.*
- *The process has involved considerable refinement over time and it is clear that SNH have gained **significant and invaluable experience** in how to ensure that the responses generated by a major public consultation are accurately and robustly reflected in revisions to consultation documents.*

SECTION 3:

Assessment of outcomes against objectives

26. In terms of the three objectives set, the consultation process has had the following outcomes.

- Objective 1: to meet statutory requirements. All local authorities were consulted and over 4,000 other persons and bodies invited to make comment.
- Objective 2: to be inclusive. Responses were submitted in a variety of ways: post, email, fax, on-line responses using the web-version of the consultation document, use of personal response forms at meetings. Written representations totalled 1,362 - see detailed breakdown at Annex 2 – although many points made during the course of meetings were also noted and fed back to the analysis process, to be considered alongside formal responses.
- Objective 3: to be open and accountable. Many responses indicated support for the extensive consultation process being undertaken by SNH and two organisations viewed the non-confidential responses once the consultation period had closed. However, a very small number of complaints was received regarding the consultation. These were:
 - in responding to the consultation, an organisation which had requested a meeting with SNH which had not been responded to (the standard acknowledgement card had been issued).
 - arrangements for an appointment to view the responses to the draft Access Code had not been dealt with promptly.
 - a view that all responses should have been placed in the public domain by an easier means in order to assist those interested in making their own assessment of representations. It was suggested that responses should have been placed on a CD-rom.

Wider benefits

27. Using the consultation process, it is estimated that:

- approximately 2,900 people⁴ attended events or meetings and while many of them commented on and discussed the draft, these events also considered the future activities for implementation of the access legislation which is helpful in enabling a wide range of parties to look forward;
- the awareness of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code amongst the general public almost doubled from 3% to 6% during the consultation period⁵. This, and the scale of engagement in the consultation process, represents a useful

⁴ DRAFT SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2003, Consultation process: Second Report by Richard Scothorne, Rocket Science UK Ltd, 3 December 2003.

⁵ From the Scottish Opinion omnibus survey (part of a wider baseline survey of responsible behaviour) carried out in September 2002, January 2003 and April 2003.

start to the future education programme to publicise and promote understanding of the Code.

Conclusions

28. It is concluded that the consultation process met the three objectives set in paragraph 6 and has been successful in generating wider benefits that can be built on in the future programmes of work to publicise and promote understanding of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Scottish Natural Heritage

22 December 2003

Information sheet 2: Consultation on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code

(This Information Sheet has been updated following three Code Consultation Workshops held by Scottish Natural Heritage in early April 2003)

Introduction

1. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act received Royal Assent on 25 February 2003. Part 1 of this Act establishes rights of responsible access to the outdoors. However, these rights cannot come into effect until guidance on responsible behaviour has been prepared for those using and managing access, and brought into force by Ministers alongside commencement of this part of the legislation. **Guidance, on what is and is not responsible behaviour, will be provided in a new Scottish Outdoor Access Code.**

Scottish Natural Heritage's duty

2. Under Section 10 of the Act, **Scottish Natural Heritage has a duty to prepare and consult on a draft of the new Scottish Outdoor Access Code for subsequent consideration and approval by Ministers and the Scottish Parliament.** The legislation requires:
 - Scottish Natural Heritage shall consult local authorities and other persons and bodies as they think appropriate about the proposed Access Code and then submit it (with or without modifications) to Ministers together with copies of any objections or representations made in response to the consultation.
3. Ministers and Parliament asked SNH to be as open and as wide-ranging as possible in any consultation on the draft Code.

Development of a consultative draft

4. A consultative draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code has been prepared by SNH. It is based on earlier versions of the Code developed by the national Access Forum in its advice on interpreting the access legislation in a practical way.

Consultation process

5. The period of consultation on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code runs from **26 March to 30 June 2003.**
6. **SNH is committed to consulting widely on the development of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code in order to develop guidance on responsible behaviour which is helpful, clear, balanced and covers the wide range of interests in access to the outdoors.** To this end, the consultation process will inform and engage in terms of:
 - a) The consultation process was formally launched at Muiravonside Country Park, Linlithgow on Wednesday 26 March 2003. This event included a press release and briefing which was picked up by national, regional and local press.
 - b) Details of the consultation, along with supporting Information Sheets and links, have been placed on SNH's website www.snh.org.uk. The website includes a 'web-

version' of the draft Code which can be used to register individuals' responses to the key consultation questions. A 'Forum' is also available on the website to provide an opportunity to ask questions and engage in on-line debate and, to date, over 50 points have been registered. A range of other websites has agreed to include a link from their sites to the Access page on SNH's site to increase its accessibility.

- c) The consultative draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code has been sent to all local authorities and a very wide range of other interested organisations and individuals. Over 4,000 letters with enclosed copies of the draft Code were issued between 26 and 28 March 2003. To date, over 20,000 copies of the consultation document have been distributed to the groups summarised below .

Local authorities	Community Planning Partnerships
MSPs	Social Inclusion Partnerships
Community Councils	Kennel and canine clubs
Local Enterprise Companies	Golf clubs
Area Tourist Boards	Riding stables
Non-Governmental Organisations	Bike shops
Access Forum bodies	Ranger bases
SEERAD offices	Livestock markets
FWAG Officers	Tourist Information Centres
Grazing Clerks	Libraries

Further details of this distribution are available from SNH on request.

- d) Adverts, making people aware of the consultation, were placed in national and regional press over the period 28 – 30 March 2003. The aim of the advert – incorporating a teddy bear with boots on a pink background - was to draw attention to the consultation and prompt people to contact SNH to find out more.
- e) A short information leaflet (also available in Gaelic on the website) on the consultation on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code has been distributed to a wide range of organisations. These organisations have been invited to display and distribute the leaflet to people using their services / premises / visitor attractions / membership, with the aim of attracting further comments on the consultative draft of the Code. Organisations receiving the information leaflet cover the spectrum of interests in the target audiences identified for the access education programme, namely:
- the general public;
 - land and water managers;
 - recreation managers;
 - dog owners;
 - active recreational pursuits;
 - outdoor clubs and associations;
 - commercial recreation interests;
 - education providers; and
 - visitors to Scotland.

To date, over 400,000 copies of the short information leaflet have been distributed.

- f) SNH Area staff are aware of the context and aims of the consultation on the draft Code and have been able to respond to general questions and direct more detailed enquiries to staff in Recreation & Access Group of Advisory Services.

- g) Countryside and Access staff in a range of organisations supported by SNH attended three Regional Workshops to improve their awareness and understanding of the draft Code and the consultation process. These were held in Inverness, Lanark and Perth in early April and provided constructive comment on both the consultation process and the draft Code.
- h) Countryside and Access staff attending these Regional Workshops were encouraged to consider ways of using their own contacts and networks of communication to engage additional people in the consultation. This has resulted in a widening of the distribution of the shorter information leaflet to specific groups and at a range of events. For example, agricultural shows, family fun days organised by a local authority, farmers' markets, schools' sponsored walks, and local walking festivals have been advanced as good ways of getting the message out to people. Press releases, where appropriate, for these local events have also included a mention of the consultation process with an SNH contact number / website address. Other ways suggested by partner organisations for increasing awareness of the code consultation are through community newspapers, local authority pay slips and local radio items and we are currently considering how to use these mediums. A range of materials including a poster, presentation formats and examples of press releases has also been developed to assist in the consultation process.
- i) Local Access Forums (including those in development and other similar access organisations) have been encouraged to consider holding a meeting or event to engage interested organisations and individuals in discussing the key issues in the draft Code. The Paths for All Partnership will be helping local authority Access Officers / SNH to plan and facilitate these events, and provide an opportunity for one-to-one discussion before and after the events. To date, 20 meetings of Local Access Forums or equivalent have been held / are scheduled to discuss the Code. Details of Local Access Forum meetings that are open to the public will be advertised on SNH's website and in local press.
- j) As Local Access Forums do not have a comprehensive geographical coverage (the majority are located in the central belt), SNH has considered how to use other events as a means for informing the public of the consultation and engaging wider interests in considering the issues in the draft Code. From this consideration, events are planned in a range of locations from the Northern Isles to Caithness, Portree, Pitlochry, Glasgow and Ayr. Details of these other open events will be advertised on SNH's website and in local press.
- k) SNH is holding one-to-one meetings and workshops with key national agencies and other interest groups to discuss the consultative draft of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Meetings with organisations and groups held / planned to date include:
- British Waterways
 - British Horse Society Scotland
 - Forestry Commission and forest industry
 - Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park
 - National Farmers' Union Scotland
 - RSPB
 - Scottish Water
 - sportscotland Glenmore Lodge
- l) A dedicated helpdesk has been provided for both internal and external enquiries. This is staffed by Bridget Dales at soac-consultation@snh.gov.uk, or 01738 444177, or at Scottish Natural Heritage, Battleby, Redgorton, PERTH PH1 3EW.

What about additional meetings to discuss the draft Access Code?

7. It is hoped that many requests for discussion on the issues in the draft Code can be directed to and incorporated into the programme of Local Access Forum meetings and other events. However, where our resources permit, Recreation & Access Group in liaison with appropriate Areas will consider how best to respond to needs for facilitated discussion.

How to respond to the Consultation

8. Details on how to respond to the consultation on the draft Code are set out on page 6 of the consultation document and the contact details are given at the end of this Information Sheet. Responses to Scottish Natural Heritage's consultation on the Scottish Outdoor Access Code can be submitted by letter, fax and email, and the 'web version' of the consultation document on SNH's website allows on-line responses to the key consultation questions. At meetings or events with SNH or Paths for All Partnership staff in attendance, there will be an opportunity for individuals' to register their views if they wish. All responses will remain confidential until the consultation period has ended, and after that they will be made available on request unless the respondent has specifically asked for their views to be kept confidential. **The deadline for SNH to receive responses is 30 June 2003.**

What happens next?

9. After we have analysed all the comments we have received and sought advice from the national Access Forum, **we hope to seek the approval of SNH's Main Board on a revised draft of the Code in September or October 2003.** Thereafter, and subject to any revisions arising from the Main Board's consideration, it is our intention to produce a revised Scottish Outdoor Access Code for consideration by Ministers and the Scottish Parliament later in 2003.
10. This timing is, of course, provisional because we are uncertain of the level of response, and the subsequent scale of analysis that will be required. In this respect, we need to reflect the fact that the draft Land Reform (Scotland) Bill received an unprecedented 3,600 responses, mostly on the access provisions. If this level of response is repeated, the exact timings ahead may need to be altered.
11. Once the Scottish Parliament has approved the Code and it has been brought into force by Ministers alongside commencement of other elements of Part 1 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, SNH will have a duty to publicise the Code (jointly with local authorities) and promote understanding of it. SNH will deliver this duty through a comprehensive access education programme that will be guided by the advice of an External Advisory Group that we will be establishing shortly. Whilst the detail of this programme cannot be finalised until the Code has been approved, we envisage that it could include:
 - use of an overarching theme to promote responsibilities – possibly along the lines of the "CARE concept" piloted at the Royal Highland show in 2002;
 - launch of a dedicated "access" website that provides a hub for a wide range of access material;
 - development of tailored "sub-codes" which could be for specific sites / areas, recreational groups or land-management interests;
 - consideration of a "common visual language" for signs guiding responsible behaviour;
 - a mass-media campaign through television, radio and press;
 - training of recreation and land-management staff;

- research into the specific needs of target audiences e.g. reaching dog owners;
- practical advice on encouraging responsible behaviour, for example, through signs, leaflets and linked websites; and
- monitoring of awareness of the principles of responsible behaviour in order that the performance of the programme can be assessed.

12. SNH also has a duty to keep the Code under review and, if necessary, suggest modifications. Ministers have indicated that they expect SNH to convene a national Access Forum to assist with this task. In light of this, we will also be conducting a parallel consultation to consider how the existing national Access Forum could change to fulfil this role. This consultation also runs from 26 March 2003 to 30 June 2003. Further details of this, along with copies of the consultation document, can be obtained from Mark Wraitham on mark.wraitham@snh.gov.uk or tel: 0131 446 2400.

Where can I get help?

13. **A dedicated helpdesk has been provided for both internal and external enquiries relating to the consultation on the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, and to request further copies of the consultative draft Code. The contact detail provided below is also where responses to the consultation should be sent.**

Please contact Bridget Dales at:

e-mail: soac-consultation@snh.gov.uk

tel: 01738 444177

fax: 01738 458611

post: Scottish Natural Heritage, Battleby, Redgorton, PERTH PH1 3EW.

7 May 2003

List of 'on-line' discussion threads posted in the SNH website forum

Discussion Theme -	Number of comments posted
Crossing fences	52
Policing	42
Pay to roam	41
Fences – arbitration needed	33
Ask first	32
Who has priority?	26
Important questions	26
Horse riders with dogs	21
Key issues	20
Silage	12
Access for disabled people	11
Dogs	11
No right to roam for dogs	11
Every man's right	11
Never enough	10
Liability insurance	9
Mountain biking	9
Grey areas	9
Publicity & Education	9
Nature Reserves	8
Lapsed bridlepaths	8
Shooting ranges	7
Camping	6
Wildlife	6
Private land – no public access	6
Car parking	6
A good idea	6
Zoning	5
Byelaws restricting access	5
Air sports	4
Fundamentally flawed	4
Fields with lambs and calves	4
Access	3
total	473

Location and nature of meetings and other events at which the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code was discussed

Meeting type	Location – date; approximate number of attendees
SNH run Regional Workshops - Approximate number of attendees: 190	Inverness - 02.04.03; 45. Perth - 04.04.03; 81. Lanark - 07.04.03; 64.

Meeting type	Event – date; location; approximate number of attendees
Presentations to Councils	Perth & Kinross Council - 21.05.03; Perth. Argyll & Bute Council - 25.06.03; Lochgilphead. Borders Council - 25.06.03; Newton St Boswells. Orkney Islands Council - 26.06.03; Kirkwall.
Bilateral - Total number of meetings: 25 Approximate number of attendees: 507	Scottish Canine Consultative Council - 10.04.03; Larkhall; 6. Forestry Commission - 30.04.03; Dunkeld; 40. Forestry Commission - 01.05.03; Dunkeld; 40. British Alcan - 02.05.03; Fort William; 4. Scottish Raptor Monitoring Group - 02.05.03; Edinburgh; 3. British Horse Society - 07.05.03; 12. Scottish Water - 08.05.03; Dunfermline; 20. NFUS Forth and Clyde area - 13.05.03; Stepps; 30. Health and Safety Executive - 15.05.03; Edinburgh; 2. NFUS Dumbarton and Kilpatrick Branch - 16.05.03; Dumbarton; 25. NFUS, Orkney - 19.05.03; Orkney; 32. NFUS Central Scotland - 20.05.03; Perth; 45. Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Board - 20.05.03; Aberfoyle; 25. Scottish Countryside Rangers' Association - 20.05.03; Lochore Meadows; 22. SC FWAG - 27.05.03; Shetland; 11. NFUS, Brora - 27.05.03; Brora; 27. NFUS Clydesdale - 03.06.03; Symington; 30. NFUS, Lothians Branch - 09.06.03; Pathead; 75. BHS Highland South Branch - 10.06.03; Inverness; 17. Faskally House Christian Centre - 10.06.03; Battleby, Perth; 2. Skye and Lochalsh NFUS - 12.06.03; Inverinate; 12. Tay Anglers - 19.06.03; Stanley; 11. NFUS, Mull - 25.06.03; Salen; 10. British Waterways - 25.06.03; Edinburgh; 2. RSPB - 02.07.03; Edinburgh; 4.

<p>Local access forums -</p> <p>Total number of meetings: 35</p> <p>Approximate number of attendees: 478</p>	<p>West Dunbartonshire Council Access Steering Group - 24.03.03; Dumbarton; 7.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council - 31.03.03; Glasgow; 20.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City Council Local Access Forums - 08.04.03; Aberdeen.</p> <p>East Ayrshire Council Access Steering Group - 08.04.03; Kilmarnock; 14.</p> <p>North Lanarkshire Council Local Access Forum Open Evening - 09.04.03; Motherwell.</p> <p>East Ayrshire Council Local Access Forum - 10.04.03; Galston; 20.</p> <p>Falkirk Local Access Forum - 14.04.03; Falkirk.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council Local Access Forum Core Group - 17.04.03; Kirkintilloch; 10.</p> <p>Fife Local Access Forum Steering Group - 22.04.03; Glenrothes; 10.</p> <p>Borders Local Access Forum - 23.04.03; Newton St Boswells; 10.</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway local access forum - 24.04.03; Kirkcudbright; 27.</p> <p>East Lothian Local Access Forum - 24.04.03; Musselburgh; 20.</p> <p>Borders Access Forum - 24.04.03; Newton St Boswells.</p> <p>West Lothian Local Access Forum - 24.04.03; Linlithgow; 21.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council Access Steering Group - 28.04.03; Glasgow; 5.</p> <p>Clackmannanshire Local Access Forum - 28.04.03; Clackmannan; 16.</p> <p>Edinburgh City Local Access Forum Steering Group - 30.04.03; Edinburgh; 8.</p> <p>Renfrewshire Council Access Steering Group - 01.05.03; Paisley; .</p> <p>East Renfrewshire Council Local Access Forum - 06.05.03; Giffnock; 16.</p> <p>Edinburgh Access Forum - 09.05.03; Edinburgh; 19.</p> <p>Fife Access Forum - 12.05.03; Glenrothes; 13.</p> <p>North Lanarkshire Council Access Steering Group - 13.05.03; Motherwell; 7.</p> <p>West Dunbartonshire Council Access Steering Group - 14.05.03; Dumbarton; 6.</p> <p>Dundee City Local Access Forum - 15.05.03; Dundee; 15.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council Local Access Forum - 19.05.03; Glasgow.</p> <p>North Lanarkshire Council, Local Access Forum core group - 22.05.03; Motherwell; 13.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire Council Interim local access forum - 22.05.03; Hamilton; 18.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council local Access Forum - core group - 28.05.03; Bishopbriggs; 9.</p> <p>North Ayrshire Council Local Access Forum - 28.05.03; Ardrossan; 50.</p> <p>Shetland Access Forum - 30.05.03; Lerwick; 14.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council Local Access Forum - 02.06.03; Glasgow; 22.</p> <p>West Dunbartonshire Council - Access Stakeholder meeting - 09.06.03; Dumbarton; 30.</p> <p>Aberdeen City Local Access Forum - 09.06.03; Aberdeen.</p> <p>Midlothian Council Local Access Forum - 17.06.03; Bonnyrigg; 18.</p> <p>Orkney Local Access Forum - 18.06.03; Kirkwall; 40.</p>
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<p>Open -</p> <p>Total number of meetings: 54</p> <p>Approximate number of attendees: 595</p>	<p>Open event - Orkney - 10.04.03; Eday; 9. Science Festival, Royal Botanic Gardens – 11 to 16.04.03; Edinburgh. Open event - Orkney - 22.04.03; Hoy; 5. Open event - Orkney - 23.04.03; Sanday; 3. Open event - Orkney - 24.04.03; Stronsay; 10. Open event - Orkney - 28.04.03; Rousay; 6. Open Meeting - 29.04.03; Wick; 2. Open Meeting - 29.04.03; Thurso; 2. Open event - Orkney - 30.04.03; Westray; 11. Open Meeting - 30.04.03; Ullapool; 2. Open event - Orkney - 01.05.03; North Ronaldsay; 5. Open Meeting - 01.05.03; Golspie; 2. Open Surgeries – 6 to 9.05.03; Lerwick; . Open event - 07.05.03; Flotta; 3. Open event - 07.05.03; Shapinsay; 10. Open - Public Event - 10.05.03; Ayr. Open - Public Event – 11 to 17.05.03; Aviemore. Open - Public Event - 11.05.03; Gourrock. Greenscene – 14 to 17.05.03; Clackmannan. Open event - Orkney - 15.05.03; Finstown; 7. Pollok Woodlands Fair, Pollok Country Park - 17.05.03; 100. Open - drop-in sessions - 20.05.03; Portree; 9. Lochaber Mountain Access Group - 22.05.03; Fort William; 10. Perth and Kinross open event - 22.05.03; Pitlochry. Open - Public Event, Mugdock Country Park - 25.05.03. Perth and Kinross open event - 27.05.03; Perth; 59. Gardening Scotland - 29.05.03 to 02.06.03; Ingliston. Open drop-in event - 30.05.03; Gairloch; 6. Open -Public Event - 31.05.03; Balmacara. Open Public Event - 02.06.03; Stirling; 21. Open - drop-in sessions - 03.06.03; Fort William; 0. Open Meeting - 05.06.03; Lochgilphead; 61. Open - Launch of Lambhill Access - 06.06.03; Glasgow. East Berwickshire Natural History Festival - 06.06.03 to 08.06.03; Eyemouth. Open - Show stand - 07.06.03; Torrance; 30. SNH Fort William Office - 10.06.03; Fort William; 6. Banff and Buchan (East) - 10.06.03; Fraserburgh. Open Meeting - 10.06.03; Glenrothes; 20. North Marr - 11.06.03; Huntly; 13. Banff and Buchan (West) - 12.06.03; Banff; 16. Treefest - 14.06.03 to 15.06.03; Edinburgh. Open event - 15.06.03; Finstown; 7. Blawhorn Moss NNR Open day - 16.06.03; West Lothian. Cairngorms, Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Group - 16.06.03; Aviemore. Buchan - 17.06.03; Old Deer; 7. Garioch - 18.06.03; Inverurie; 29. South Marr - 19.06.03; Aboyne; 42. Open - Show stand - 22.06.03; Glasgow. Open - 24.06.03; Inverness; 8. Kincardine and Mearns – 24.06.03; Stonehaven; 28. Formartine - 26.06.03; Tarves; 26. Environmental fair, South Ayrshire - 28.06.03; Ayr. Royal Highland Show - 19.06.03 to 22.06.03; Ingliston; 20. Lesley Riddoch Show - 20.05.03.</p>
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<p>Other -</p> <p>Total number of meetings: 30</p> <p>Approximate number of attendees: 289</p>	<p>Perth and Kinross Rangers - 03.04.03; Perth; 3. Atholl Estate Rangers - 14.04.03; Blair Atholl; 2. Angus Rangers - 15.04.03; Monikie Country Park. Angus Environmental Forum - 16.04.03; Forfar. Over 50's walking group, West Lothian - 16.04.03; Bathgate; 20. Mugdock Management Committee - 23.04.03; 12. Tayside LBAP Steering Group - 24.04.03; Perth. Health Improvement Network Meeting - 30.04.03; Airdrie; 50. Highland and Islands Agricultural Network - 02.05.03; Inverness. Formartine Partnership Group - community planning - 07.05.03; Old Meldrum, Buchan. Stirling Council Countryside Team - 12.05.03; Stirling; 10. Wider Forest Industry - 13.05.03; Dunkeld; 50. Farmers Through Edinburgh Green Belt Trust - 14.05.03; Dalkeith; 20. Members of Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Community Association - 20.05.03; Glenmore; 40. Moray Abounds - 20.05.03; Moray. Glenmore Lodge - 20.05.03; Glenmore; 18. Dundee Partnership for the Environment - 22.05.03; Dundee. National Park Community Futures Area Networks meeting - 27.05.03; Gartocharn. National Park Community Futures Area Networks meeting - 29.05.03; Callander. Great Glen Landowners - 02.06.03; Invergarry; 8. Waterways Trust Steering Group - 03.06.03; Glasgow; 3. National Park Community Futures Area Networks meeting - 03.06.03; Cairndhu. Abriachan Community Hall, Great Glen Landowners meeting - 04.06.03; Lochend; 6. National Park Community Futures Area Networks meeting - 04.06.03; Lochearnhead. Great Glen Landowners meeting - 10.06.03; Drumnadrochit; 11. Angus Rural Partnership - 11.06.03; Forfar. Perth and Kinross Agricultural Forum - 12.06.03; Perth. Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust - 13.06.03; Perth. West Areas Board Meeting - 16.06.03; Gretna Green; 15. Highland Youth Parliament, Sabhal Mohr Ostaig - 21.06.03; Portree; 21.</p>
<p>Total number of meetings /events: 151</p>	<p>Approximate number of recorded attendees: 2,059</p>

Summary of key points made at meetings that were additional to or significantly expanded upon those raised in written submissions.

- How do those that don't speak / read English 'exercise access rights responsibly'?
- Who provides the guidance regarding access for quad bikes & scramblers, many of whom will not be in an organisation and see themselves as being responsible by going along a remote beach and playing in the large unused sand dunes?
- A section specifically for 'recreation managers'.

- Is there a need for horse worming?
- More guidance is required regarding the use of reservoirs and quarries for recreation.
- Roadside wild camping is the only place to camp on some islands where there are no campsites.
- Emphasise this is 'not a right to roam'.
- Note that at certain times and in certain locations, there will be 'no access' due to the spraying of pesticides...etc.
- Include in the Access Code information to tell those users, which code regarding access, does apply to them if the Access Code doesn't.
- How do you stop guide-book writers writing about routes and being irresponsible in encouraging access without any form of consultation or agreement, sometimes contrary to wishes of conservation bodies and land owners?
- Disease protection from un-wormed dogs of public visitors?
- How to advise public on unenclosed land and on crofting land?
- What if 'group leaders' are irresponsible in the countryside?

Scottish Outdoor Access Code consultation – Breakdown of responses

<u>Respondent type</u>	Respond-ent code	number	% age (base 1,362)
Individual recreational user i.e. individuals identifying themselves as such.	A	135	9.9
Individual land managers / factors Including individuals identifying themselves as farm, estate or golf course managers, factors responding on behalf of specific estates, Open Gardens.	B	448	32.8
Individual sporting / outdoor activity Including participants in activities outwith access rights e.g. Golfers, anglers, target shooters, jet skiers, participants in other field sports.	C	4	0.3
Recreation / tourism businesses Including mountain guides, trekking companies, rafting companies, outdoor centres, tourism businesses specific to activities under access rights.	D	16	1.2
Land-management businesses Including forestry companies, factors responding in a general capacity.	E	35	2.5
Sporting / other activity businesses Businesses outwith access rights – inc. paintballing, wider tourism ops. e.g. camp/caravan sites, 4x4 courses, B&Bs	F	9	0.7
Recreation and dog-owning interest groups Including RAS, SCAC, MCofS, individual clubs, Canine Defence League.	G	59	4.3
Land management interest groups Including NFUS, DMGs, DSFBs, Gamekeepers, Forest & Timber.	H	38	2.8
Sports / outdoor activity organisations / interest groups Including recreational activities outwith the access rights e.g. SANA, LARA, Golf Union, x,y,z football club, water ski assoc., cricket clubs.	J	10	0.7
Natural / cultural heritage groups – land owners Including RSPB and other landowning organisations.	K	5	0.4
Natural / cultural heritage groups and non-landowning NGOs, Gaelic groups.	L	24	1.8
Social and economic groups Including disability groups, social inclusion partnerships.	M	14	1.0
MSPs / MPs / LA Councillors	N	12	0.9
Local Authorities - including National Parks & CoSLA	P	28	2

Local Access Forums	P/LAF	8	0.6
Community Councils	Q	67	5
National agencies – public sector. All such public bodies should be allocated to this category rather than any others which might reflect their particular remits.	R	13	1
Regional/local public agencies As above, but with any geographic coverage that is less than the whole of Scotland. Including LECs.	T	1	0.1
Professional bodies including RICS, ACPOS, RTPI, SCRA, Directors of Planning	U	4	0.3
Research / academic organisations / individual academics / consultants - including Schools, Colleges, Universities.	V	10	0.8
Other individuals Including individuals expressing an affiliation to multiple interests, or to no particular interest.	W	371	27.2
Other organisations Including businesses or interest groups covering multiple interests (e.g. Diversified farm businesses; SPCA etc). NB: landowning NGOs to be coded as K.	X	51	3.7
TOTAL		1,362	

Respondent location	Code prefix	Number	% age (base 1,362)
Scotland	X	1,306	96
Rest of UK	Y	21	1.5
International	Z	3	0.2
Uncoded		32	2.4

Declared dog owner	Code suffix	number	% age (base 952 individual respondents)
Dog owner noted	d	114	12

Response sent via	Number	% age (base 1,362)
Post	849	62
Email	410	30
Post & email	54	4
Fax	38	2.8
Online	32	2.4
Personal response form completed at a meeting	16	1.2
Telephone	6	0.44

SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE



We are a government organisation set up by Parliament in 1992. We are responsible to the Scottish Executive and Scottish Parliament.

Our mission

'Working with Scotland's people to care for our natural heritage.'

Our aim

'Scotland's natural heritage is a local, national and global asset.

We promote its care and improvement, its responsible enjoyment, its greater understanding and appreciation and its sustainable use now and for future generations.'

Our operating principles

'We work in partnership, by co-operation, negotiation and consensus, where possible, with all relevant interests in Scotland: public, private and voluntary organisations, and individuals.'

'We operate in a devolved manner, delegating decision-making to the local level within the organisation to encourage and assist SNH to be accessible, sensitive and responsive to local needs and circumstances.'

'We operate in an open and accountable manner in all our activities.'

Other reports:

A Proposed Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Report 2

Analysis of representations made on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Report 3

Implementation of the Access Legislation: issues raised during the consultation on the draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Summary Report

Summary of the Consultation Process and Analysis of Responses

Available from:

Claire Myles

Scottish Natural Heritage

Battleby, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW

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John MacPherson and horse riding: George Logan

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