

Provisional map of open country and registered common land in central southern England

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 will create new rights to walk on 'access land' – generally mountain, moor, heath, down and registered common land. The Countryside Agency is required to produce maps of registered common land and open country in preparation for the introduction of the new public access rights.

The provisional map for central southern England was issued on 23 May 2003. It includes changes (which may be additions, deletions or re-categorisations) to the areas shown as registered common land and open country on the draft map issued by the Agency for consultation between September 2002 and December 2002.

The electronic provisional map at a larger scale may be viewed at our London, Cheltenham, Bristol or Manchester offices - phone the helpline for an appointment.

A reduced scale provisional map will be available for inspection at:

- selected regional offices - phone the helpline for an appointment
- local authority offices • selected public libraries
- our website www.countryside.gov.uk/access/mapping



**Central Southern England
(excluding West Somerset and Taunton Deane)**

Maps will be sent to Parish Councils (for their local area) and national landowner and countryside user representative groups.

A copy of your local provisional map sheet at a reduced scale is available to purchase for £15 (paper copy) and £22 (laminated copy), plus £5 P&P per order by calling 020 7526 2325.

For more information on access mapping phone the Countryside Agency helpline on 0845 100 3298 or visit our website www.countryside.gov.uk/access/mapping

Appeals against the provisional map

Anyone with a legal interest in the land (e.g. a landowner, tenant, or the holder of sporting or common rights) may appeal against it being shown as registered common land or open country on the provisional map.

How to appeal

Appeals must be made to the Secretary of State on one of the following grounds:

- 1) where land is mapped as registered common land, that it is not registered common land.
- 2) where land is mapped as open country that:
 - (i) it does not consist wholly or predominantly of mountain, moor, heath or down: and
 - (ii) where the Agency has exercised its discretion under the Act, to treat land which is not open country as forming part of an area of open country, it ought not to have done so.

To appeal, please contact:

The Access Team, Planning Inspectorate, Room 215, Regus House, 1 Friary, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6EA for an appeal form. Alternatively download a form from their website www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk (forms may be submitted electronically). All appeals must be made on the official form.

For more information phone 0117 344 5680/5738 or email access@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Your appeal must be received before midnight on 23 August 2003. Any appeal received after this date will be invalid.