Item No. 9

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 9 December 2025

Officer's Report

1. Purpose of the Report

The following report brings together, in one place, a collection of items for Members consideration and information.

2. Meetings of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum for 2026

The following are the dates for meetings during 2026:

Tuesday 12 May 2026, 1.15 pm @ Yoredale, Bainbridge
Tuesday 8 December 2026, 1.15 pm @ Teams meeting

3. Authority Meetings

Any member of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum can attend Authority Meetings as a member of the public. Please contact Rebecca Eslick for a copy of the agenda and supporting papers. Please note, it is not a requirement for members of the YDAF to attend Authority meetings, so it is not an 'approved duty' and LAF members cannot claim expenses for attending such meetings.

Authority Meeting Dates and Venues for 2025:

Date	Venue	Time
16/12/2025	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.30
31/03/2026	Yoredale, Bainbridge	13.00
30/06/2026	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.30
29/09/2026	Yoredale, Bainbridge	13.00
15/12/2026	Yoredale, Bainbridge	13.00

4. CROW report

Appendix 1 is the report from Natural England on the use of statutory directions to restrict/ exclude public access.

5. Active Travel

Active Travel Plan was confirmed a by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authorities members committee in July 2025: -
Proposed active travel routes in the Yorkshire Dales - Yorkshire Dales National Park : Yorkshire Dales National Park

The Active Travel Plan resulted in identifying 21 potential long distance multiuser route and 7 local intervention schemes.
The next stage in the process is to prioritise the network and look for further opportunities for funding.

Feasibility studies have been commissioned to improve active travel to three schools in the Craven area of the National Park: Grassington CofE Primary School, Threshfield Primary School and Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School. The Access & Recreation team are working with the schools and the local communities to further develop the active travel schemes ready to be submitted for active travel funding form the Combined Authority.

6. Yorkshire Dales Access Forum Membership

Recruitment for members to the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum will begin in the New Year to start in May 2026. Those members whose term comes to an end this year will be notified before Christmas.

Members are asked to note this process, and give thoughts on how we might attract more applicants from groups under-represented in the National Park.

7. Coast to Coast National Trail

The Coast to Coast infrastructure phase is in the final stages of completion, the National Trail will be launched in March 2026, White Mossy Hill Works completed in November 2025 [For further information please see: Coast to Coast upgrade completed - Yorkshire Dales National Park : Yorkshire Dales National Park] this section from the road to our boarder is style/step free, is a minimum of 900mm wide and has passing places on route. Although not accessible to all, these works have significantly increased the opportunity by users to access this section of upland moor whilst protecting the delicate ecological environment and has added an additional 2.9km to the PRoW network.

At Ney Gill four pedestrian bridges have been installed and surface works completed. A significant number of finger posts have now been installed with waymarker posts being installed from start of December. Ney Gill works has seen the installation of four footbridges and the completion of a section of surface improvement works. Works continue (and are scheduled to be completed by the end of the financial year) at Orton (surface improvement works to the link route to the

village), Cringley Bottom and Gunnerside. Rangers delivering works on site have received fantastic feedback from those using the route especially on the improved signage and surface works.

A National Trail Partnership will be created from April 2026, YDNPA are seeking to establish themselves as lead authority for the partnership, more information will become available in the following months.

8. Westmorland Furness Way

The Delivery of the first phase of the Westmorland Furness Way has been funded from Westmorland and Furness Local Transport Grant and the Council's Countryside Access Team are managing the project. The project started in September 2025, and the project is hoped to be completed in the spring ready for a summer 2026 opening of the Westmorland and Furness Way. Funding is still to be secured for Phase 2 Delivery.

Rachel Briggs
Access and Recreation Officer
November 2025

BLANK PAGE

Appendix 1

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
Report on the use of statutory directions to restrict/ exclude public access
January to December 2024
Prepared by Natural England for the relevant authorities



Photo: Nipstone Rock, The Stiperstones

Contents

1. Introduction

2. Explanation of access rights

3. Explanation of restrictions/ exclusions

4. Relaxing and removing general restrictions

5. Further sources of information about access rights and restriction/ exclusions

6. Land with public access under CROW

    a. Open Access and King Charles III England Coast Path
    b. Open Access land dedicated in perpetuity

7. Number of new Open Access and King Charles III England Coast Path cases decided by relevant authorities

8. Reviewed cases

9. Number of Open Access directions active during 2024

10. Amount of Open Access land on which CROW rights were restricted/ excluded during 2024

    a. Natural England
    b. Forestry Commission
    c. National Park Authorities

11. Numbers and types of King Charles III England Coast Path directions active during 2024

12. Summary

    a. Open Access
    b. King Charles III England Coast Path

1. Introduction

This is a report on the use of directions to restrict/ exclude public access under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. It covers the directions managed by relevant authorities, and discretionary use by landowners, during the calendar year 2024, based on numerical data.

The relevant authorities for Open Access land are Natural England, the Forestry Commission and the National Park Authorities. Natural England is the sole relevant authority for restrictions/ exclusions on the King Charles III England Coast Path. Natural England has a duty to display all directions on this website: Natural England - Open Access & Coastal Access Maps, and also administers the activation of discretionary directions by landowners on behalf of all relevant authorities.

2. Explanation of access rights

Under Part 1 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW), there is a general right of public access for the purposes of open-air recreation on:

- Open Access land mapped as open country (mountain, moor, down and heath) plus registered common land.

- The King Charles III England Coast Path, where coastal access rights cover the trail (where not on public rights of way) and the coastal margin (usually land seaward of the trail).

There is a right of access unless:

- There were pre-existing rights specified in s15 of the CROW Act.
- The land meets an excepted land category – see gov.uk links in the Further Sources of Information section below.
- There are statutory restrictions/ exclusions in force.

Access rights commenced on mapped Open Access land between 2004 and 2005. Landowners have dedicated some land since then. Stretches of the King Charles III England Coast Path began opening in 2012.

3. Explanation of restrictions/ exclusions

Relevant authorities in England have a statutory duty to ensure that the 'least restrictive option' is taken. Access management can range from informal management such as signs, to statutory directions that may only restrict access over small areas, for small periods of time, and/ or may only require (for example) dogs to be on leads. Not all statutory directions exclude people and dogs all year round.

Relevant authorities have statutory duties for Open Access land (all relevant authorities) and the King Charles III England Coast Path (Natural England only) to:

- Determine any applications received to restrict/ exclude public access for land management and public safety reasons.

- Make directions to restrict/ exclude access where necessary for fire prevention, public safety, unsuitability for public access on salt marsh and mud/ sand flats (King Charles III England Coast Path only) or nature conservation reasons.

Landowners have discretionary powers on Open Access land only to:

- Restrict/ exclude land for up to 28 days per calendar year (with some exceptions such as bank holidays and summer weekends).
- Exclude dogs on managed grouse moors for five consecutive years.
- Exclude dogs from lambing enclosures not more than 15 hectares in size for up to six weeks each year.

There are no decision-making powers for relevant authorities for these directions – they are at the landowner's discretion. Natural England does not usually use discretionary directions on land it owns but private landowners make use of these on land for which Natural England is a relevant authority. The Forestry Commission does not usually use discretionary directions on land it owns.

Under s28 of the CROW Act, the Secretary of State for Defence can make directions to restrict/ exclude access for defence reasons and the Home Secretary can do the same for national security. The Ministry of Defence has made directions but these are not covered in this report as the MOD is not a relevant authority.

Covered in this report are the following directions notified by landowners (in grey) and directions administered by the relevant authorities. Natural England is the sole relevant authority for restrictions/ exclusions on the King Charles III England Coast Path.

Section of the CROW Act	Purpose	Given by
s22	Up to 28 days per calendar year	Discretionary power for landowners and any other person with an interest in the land
s23(1)	Dog exclusions on managed grouse moors for five consecutive years	Discretionary power for landowners only
s23(2)	Dog exclusions from lambing enclosures not more than 15 hectares for 6 weeks each year	Discretionary power for landowners only
s24	Land management	Made by the relevant authority on application (Open Access land) and by application or non-application on the King Charles III England Coast Path
s25(1a)	Prevention of fire	Made by the relevant authority on application and by non-application
s25(1b)	Public safety	Made by the relevant authority on application and by non-application
s24/s25	Combined land management and public safety	Made by the relevant authority on application
s25A	Salt marsh or mud/sand flats unsuitable for public access	Made by Natural England by non-application on the King Charles III England Coast Path only
s26(3a)	Protection of nature conservation	Made by the relevant authority by non-application

Section of the CROW Act	Purpose	Given by

4. Relaxing and removing general restrictions

Landowners can provide more access by relaxing or removing the general restrictions in Schedule 2 of the CROW Act that restrict or exclude certain activities, for example horse riding and cycling are not permitted. There are also restrictions that specify users of CROW access rights must keep dogs on a short lead of no more than two metres between 1 March and 31 July each year (except in the coastal margin) and at all times near livestock. In the coastal margin, dogs must be under effective control at all times. Landowners can relax or remove these general restrictions through a direction issued by the relevant authority. This power has not been used on the King Charles III England Coast Path but since Open Access was first mapped, it has been used by a private landowner within Natural England's area of responsibility, and by Natural England on a small number of National Nature Reserves. There is no requirement for relevant authorities to review these directions.

5. Further sources of information about access rights and restriction/ exclusions

Information about public access rights under CROW and restrictions/ exclusions can be found here:
Open access land: management, rights and responsibilities - GOV.UK
King Charles III England Coast Path: manage your land in the coastal margin - GOV.UK
Open access land and the coastal margin: how to restrict public access - GOV.UK

Progress on opening the King Charles III England Coast Path is explained here: King Charles III England Coast Path: improving public access to the coast - GOV.UK. Details of the King Charles III England Coast Path for walkers can be found here: Find your perfect trail, and discover the land of myths and legend - National Trails.

6. Land with public access under CROW

a. Open Access and King Charles III England Coast Path

Type	Hectares
Area of Open Access land Open country + registered common land + land dedicated under s16 excluding excepted land removed from maps and s28 directions for defence	1,012,185
Area of Open Access land that could be restricted As above excluding land with existing rights under s15	759,462
Area of King Charles III England Coast Path (coastal margin and trail) with CROW access rights	143,001
Area of King Charles III England Coast Path (coastal margin and trail) that could be restricted As above but excluding s15 land and public rights of way	142,224

b. Open Access land dedicated in perpetuity

Under s16 of the CROW Act, landowners can dedicate their land for open-air recreation. While a small number of private owners and local councils have dedicated land, the power has mainly been used by Natural England on its freehold National Nature Reserves and the Forestry Commission on its freehold woodland.
The tables show dedications that have been made in each of the relevant authority areas since Open Access was first mapped. These include: National Nature Reserve and the Forestry Commission dedications in National Park Authority boundaries, and mapped Open Access land that was also dedicated, for example, Natural England made a decision to dedicate freehold National Nature Reserves whether or not they had already been mapped so as to preserve access should the underlying land type have changed at times in the future when CROW maps are reviewed.

Hectares	**Natural England**	**Forestry Commission**	**Yorkshire Dales**	**Peak District**	**North York Moors**	**Northumberland**	**Lake District**	**Dartmoor**	**Exmoor**	**South Downs**	**Norfolk Broads**	**New Forest**
Area of land dedicated under s16	14,123	138,878	997	481	14,587	49,848	8,635	889	305	2,270	0	475

7. Number of new Open Access and King Charles III England Coast Path cases decided by relevant authorities

	Open Access Natural England	Open Access Forestry Commission	Open Access National Parks	King Charles III England Coast Path margin	King Charles III England Coast Path trail	King Charles III England Coast Path margin and trail
s24	0	1	0	6	3	1
s24/s25	0	7	0	1	0	0
s25(1b)	0	49	1	1	1	0
s25A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	N/A	N/A
s26(3a)	1	0	0	8	0	1
Totals	**1**	**57**	**1**	**25**	**4**	**2**

8. Reviewed cases

Relevant authorities have a statutory duty to review long-term directions every five years from the date of their issue, at which point these are confirmed with no change, varied if the extent or nature has changed or revoked if no longer needed. During 2024, reviews by Natural England and the National Park Authorities resulted in one revocation. The Forestry Commission does not make long-term directions.

9. Number of Open Access directions active during 2024

There were no active directions on Open Access land in the Lake District, Exmoor or the New Forest National Park Authority boundaries.

Number of landowners activating discretionary directions:

Open Access	Natural England	Forestry Commission	Yorkshire Dales	Peak Park	North York Moors	Northumberland	Dartmoor	South Downs	Norfolk Broads
s22	23	0	13	6	5	0	1	1	0
s23(1)	48	0	37	12	16	3	0	0	0
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

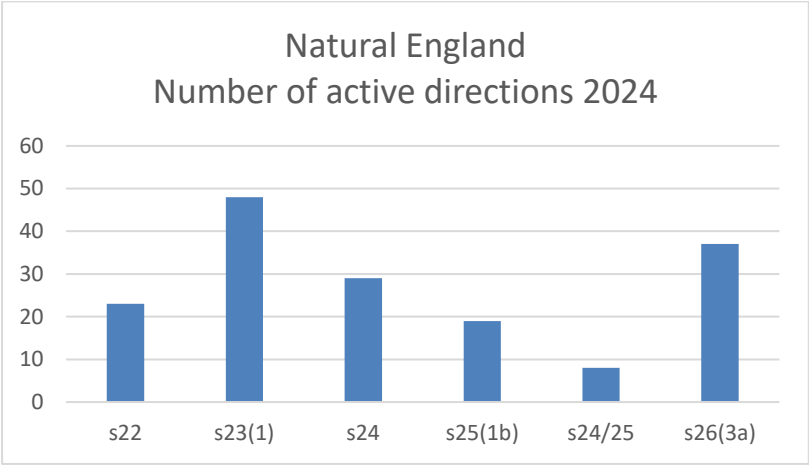
Number of active directions:

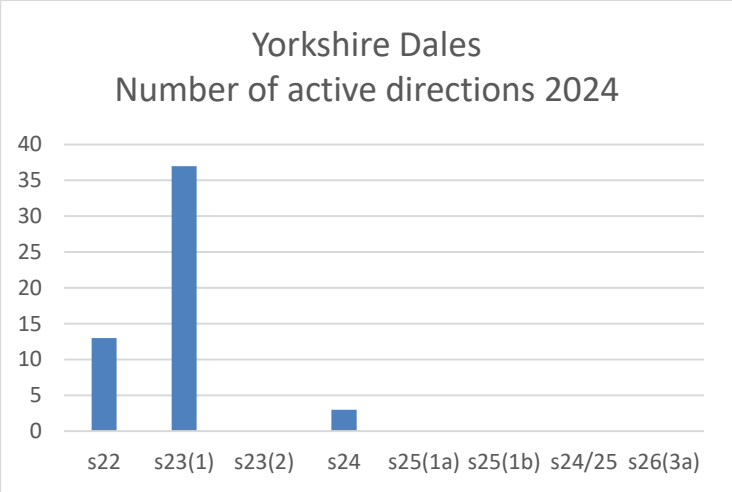
Open Access	Natural England	Forestry Commission	Yorkshire Dales	Peak Park	North York Moors	Northumberland	Dartmoor	South Downs	Norfolk Broads
s24	29	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	19	123	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
s24/s25	8	27	0	3	0	0	0	1	0
s26(3a)	37	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

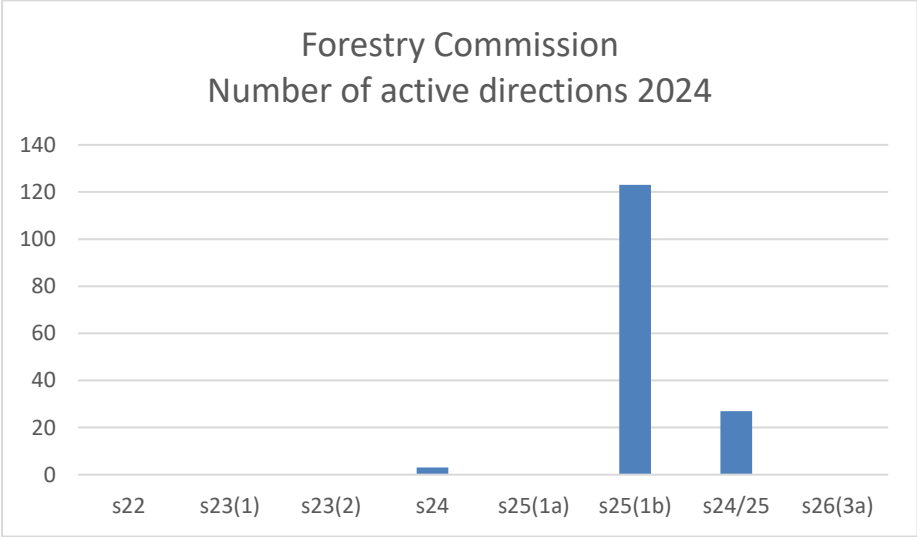
Totals:

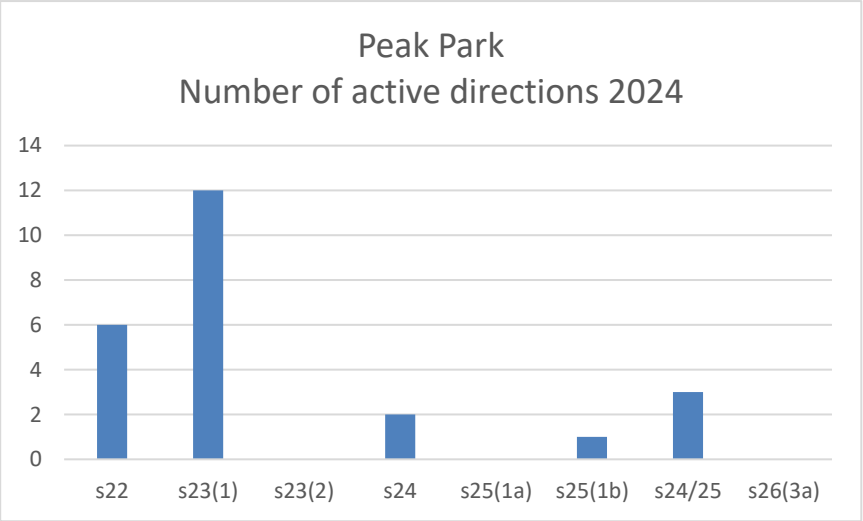
Open Access	**Totals for all relevant authorities 2024**
s22 (landowners)	49
s23(1) (landowners)	116
s23(2) (landowners)	0
s24 (directions)	37
s25(1a) (directions)	0
s25(1b) (directions)	144
s24/s25 (directions)	39
s26(3a) (directions)	38

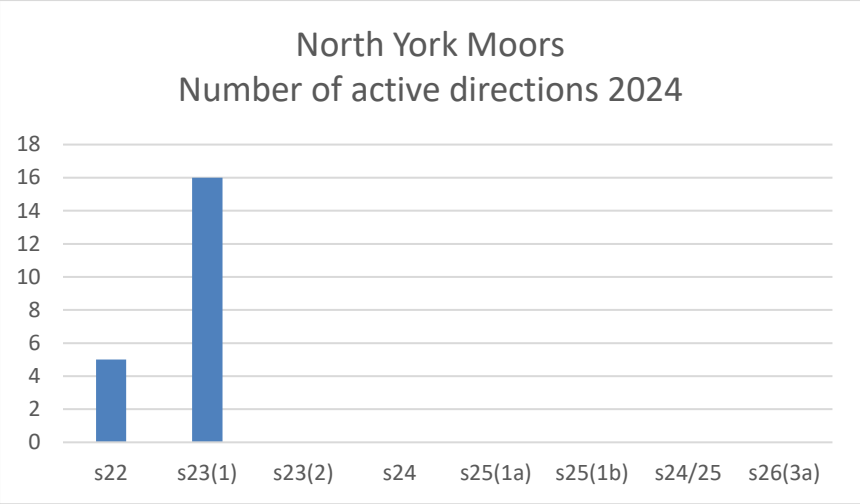
The individual figures for Natural England, the Forestry Commission, the Yorkshire Dales, Peak District and the North York Moors National Park Authorities are shown as charts below, to illustrate the various types of directions in use. The figures for the other parks are too low for meaningful individual charts.

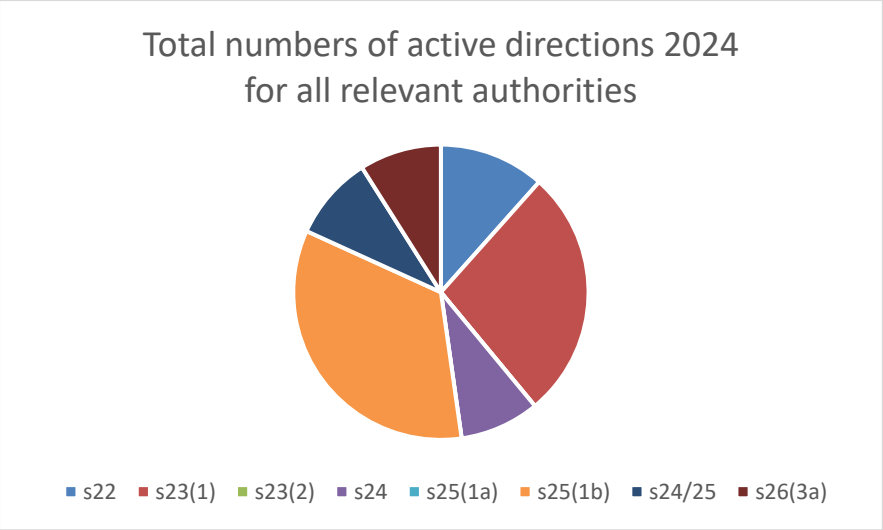

Natural England
Number of active directions 2024
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
s22
s23(1)
s24
s25(1b)
s24/25
s26(3a)


Yorkshire Dales
Number of active directions 2024
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
s22
s23(1)
s23(2)
s24
s25(1a)
s25(1b)
s24/25
s26(3a)


Forestry Commission
Number of active directions 2024
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
s22
s23(1)
s23(2)
s24
s25(1a)
s25(1b)
s24/25
s26(3a)


Peak Park
Number of active directions 2024
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
s22
s23(1)
s23(2)
s24
s25(1a)
s25(1b)
s24/25
s26(3a)


North York Moors
Number of active directions 2024
18
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
s22
s23(1)
s23(2)
s24
s25(1a)
s25(1b)
s24/25
s26(3a)


Total numbers of active directions 2024
for all relevant authorities
s22
s23(1)
s23(2)
s24
s25(1a)
s25(1b)
s24/25
s26(3a)

10. Amount of Open Access land on which CROW rights were restricted/ excluded during 2024

There were no active directions on Open Access land in the Lake District, Exmoor or the New Forest National Park Authority boundaries.

There was one hectare of land restricted/ excluded under s26(3a) in the Broads throughout the year.

a. Natural England

NE hectares	**Jan**	**Feb**	**March**	**April**	**May**	**June**	**July**	**August**	**September**	**October**	**November**	**December**
s22	685	547	109	10	12,447	20,765	12,969	9,535	5,115	3,306	248	224
s23(1)	112,669	112,669	113,662	114,388	114,388	114,388	114,388	115,605	114,436	108,748	115,446	115,446
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	251	222	109	110	110	165	208	11,209	11,246	11,253	11,240	9,299
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	227	227	227	227	159	169	169	169	303	303	303	169
s24/s25	46	46	45	71	71	71	45	45	45	46	46	46
s26(3a)	4,663	4,663	7,119	6,668	6,668	6,624	6,583	6,175	4,489	4,938	4,608	0

b. Forestry Commission

FC hectares	**Jan**	**Feb**	**March**	**April**	**May**	**June**	**July**	**August**	**September**	**October**	**November**	**December**
s22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s23(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	23	23	23	23	0
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	342	748	3,505	623	597	2,452	494	4,151	15,764	305	12,105	2,149
s24/s25	327	332	332	159	113	93	93	5	5	5	5	5

FC hectares	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
s26(3a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

c. National Park Authorities

Yorkshire Dales

YD hectares	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
s22	0	0	0	0	8,768	8,768	0	109	109	109	109	0
s23(1)	41,921	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180	41,180
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	825	825	825	825	825
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24/s25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s26(3a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Peak District

Peak hectares	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
s22	41	0	0	0	2,285	2,285	0	3,238	1301	0	0	0
s23(1)	10,608	8,672	8,672	8,672	8,672	8,672	8,672	8,672	8,366	9,441	12,834	8,802
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	49	49	49	49	56	56	56	56	56	56	49	49
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148
s24/s25	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
s26(3a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

North York Moors

NYM hectares	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
s22	0	0	0	0	3,533	3,533	0	109	109	109	109	0
s23(1)	22,518	22,518	22,518	22,518	2,2518	22,518	22,518	22,518	22,518	22,,518	22518	22,518
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24/s25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s26(3a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Northumberland

North. hectares	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
s22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s23(1)	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839	6,839
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24/s25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s26(3a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Dartmoor

Dartmoor hectares	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
s22	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	24	24
s23(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24/s25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s26(3a)	261	261	261	261	261	261	261	261	261	261	261	261

South Downs

SD hectares	**Jan**	**Feb**	**March**	**April**	**May**	**June**	**July**	**August**	**September**	**October**	**November**	**December**
s22	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s23(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s23(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
s25(1b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
s24/s25	90	90	0	0	0	0	0	90	90	90	90	90
s26(3a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

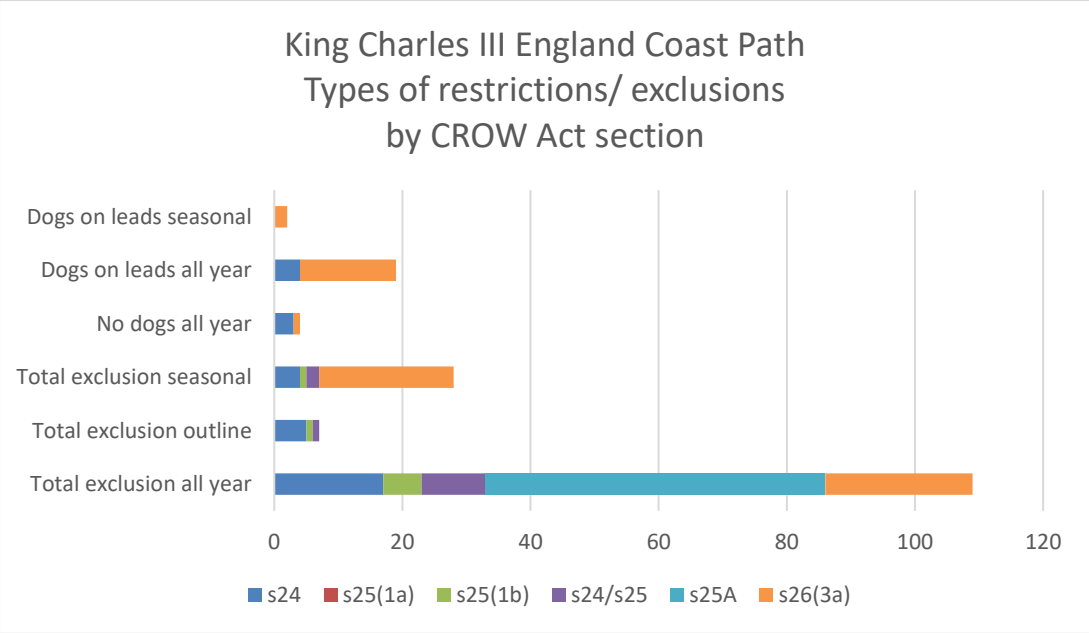
11. Numbers and types of King Charles III England Coast Path directions active during 2024

These are directions which cover the trail and the coastal margin across England that were in place by the end of 2024. There are no discretionary rights for landowners on coastal access land. Natural England is the sole relevant authority.
The first table shows the number of directions by CROW Act section.
The second table and bar chart show the type of restrictions/ exclusions.
As the King Charles III England Coast Path is still being implemented and access rights commence at different times throughout each year, showing the amount of land restricted/ excluded by month is not meaningful at this stage.

King Charles III England Coast Path	**Number of directions**
s24	33
s25 (1a)	0
s25(1b)	8
s24/s25	13
s25A	53
s26(3a)	62
Total	**169**

King Charles III England Coast Path	Total exclusion all year	Total exclusion outline	Total exclusion seasonal	No dogs all year	Dogs on leads all year	Dogs on leads seasonal	**Totals**
s24	17	5	4	3	4	0	**33**
s25(1a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
s25(1b)	6	1	1	0	0	0	**8**
s24/s25	10	1	2	0	0	0	**13**

King Charles III England Coast Path	Total exclusion all year	Total exclusion outline	Total exclusion seasonal	No dogs all year	Dogs on leads all year	Dogs on leads seasonal	Totals
s25A	53	0	0	0	0	0	**53**
s26(3a)	23	0	21	1	15	2	**62**
Totals	**109**	**7**	**28**	**4**	**19**	**2**	**169**



12. Summary

a. Open Access

During 2024, the vast majority of the 759,462 hectares of Open Access land on which it was possible to restrict/ exclude access, remained open to the public.

- The largest number of directions were made by the Forestry Commission under s25 (public safety) and for s24/s25 (land management/ public safety combined), mainly for tree and woodland management, but these restricted/ excluded only between 305 and 15,764 hectares throughout the year.

- The second highest number of active directions during 2024 were s23(1)s (no dogs on managed grouse moors), activated at the discretion of landowners. These directions excluded access for dogs on the largest areas of land.

Landowners activated directions under s22s (28 day allowance) mainly during May, June and July on land for which Natural England, the Peak District, the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors National Parks are the relevant authorities. Only one s22 was activated in each of Dartmoor and the South Downs. No landowners activated s22s in any of the other relevant authority areas.
Landowners activated directions under s23(1)s (no dogs on managed grouse moors) on land for which Natural England, Northumberland, the North York Moors, the Yorkshire Dales and Peak District National Parks are the relevant authorities.
No discretionary directions under s23(2)s (lambing) were activated in England.
The number of cases and amount of land restricted/ excluded under s24 (land management), s25 (public safety), s24/s25 combined and s26(3a) (nature conservation) was consistent across Natural England, the Peak District and the Yorkshire Dales. Usage was minimal or absent elsewhere. The most land restricted/ excluded was under s24 and s26(3a). The use of s24 and s25 included directions for: livestock, disturbance to game birds, target shooting, deer rutting, youth camps, contaminated land and entry charges.
There were no directions active in Exmoor, the New Forest or the Lake District National Park Authority boundaries.
No directions for fire prevention were activated during 2024 in any relevant authority area.

There were very few new cases for Natural England or the National Park Authorities. The Forestry Commission had the highest number of new cases as their management practices mean short-term directions are made regularly, whereas the other relevant authorities mainly make and keep under review long-term directions.

b. King Charles III England Coast Path

The number of directions under s24-s26 increased over 2024, as coastal access right commenced on new stretches.
Overall, the total exclusion of people and dogs was the main type of restriction/ exclusion.
The largest numbers of directions were for s25A (mudflats and salt marsh that are unsuitable for access) and s26 (nature conservation).
The use of s24 (land management) and s25 (public safety) included directions for: motorsports, dog management in caravan parks, livestock, disturbance to game birds, target shooting, deer rutting, youth camps, contaminated land, entry charges, commercial enterprises including hotels and boat/ dockyards, and seasonal maintenance works.
No directions for fire prevention were in place, therefore none were activated.
Landowners do not have discretionary rights under s22 and s23 on the King Charles III England Coast Path.

Natural England
May 2025