

ACCESS NEWSLETTER

Issue 46

13 August 2010

Coastal Access update

Consultation on regulations on procedures for making representations and objections about coastal access proposals made in a report by Natural England

Schedule 19 to the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 introduces a new Schedule 1A into the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Schedule 1A provides for a number of regulations to be made about the process to be followed when a coastal access report has been submitted to the Secretary of State by Natural England. The regulations include the process by which people may make representations about, or objections to, proposals contained in a Natural England coastal access report.

Between 22 March and 14 June 2010 we held a public consultation on our proposals for these regulations. We received 60 responses from a wide range of organisations and individuals. Following analysis of the responses, our conclusion is that in general the responses supported the proposals. Respondents made many helpful comments – which we are most grateful for – and we have amended our proposals in some areas as a result.

The Coastal Access Reports (Consideration and Modification Procedure) (England) Regulations 2010 were laid before Parliament on 11 August 2010. If approved, the regulations will come into force on 1 October 2010.

- A summary of responses – outlining the main points raised by consultation respondents, the Government's response and an explanation of changes made to the original proposals – can be viewed at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/coastal-access2010/index.htm>
- A copy of the draft regulations and an explanatory note can be viewed at: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/uksi_20101976_en_1

The first stretch of the new coastal access rights will be introduced at Weymouth Bay in time for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games' sailing events.

If you have any queries about the above, please email us at: coastal.access@defra.gsi.gov.uk

National Tree Planting Campaign

The [Programme for Government](#) includes a commitment to launching a national tree planting campaign. Defra is working with partners to develop a “Big Society” campaign which brings together civil society, local government and the private sector to involve communities in planting trees in towns and cities throughout England.

As a result, we are looking for civic bodies and local authorities who are interested in establishing tree planting projects as part of the campaign, or who could provide us with case studies of successful local campaigns.

For further information, please e-mail nationaltreeplantingcampaign@defra.gsi.gov.uk or contact John Robbins on 0117 372 8668.

