

Public Paths (Access)

HC Deb 18 November 1952 vol 507 cc149-50W

Mr. Blenkinsop

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government how many orders have been confirmed by his Department for the diversion of public paths under Section 42 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.

Mr. Marples

Two hundred.

Mr. Blenkinsop

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **how many county councils have applied for an extension of the statutory period in which to prepare their footpath survey draft maps.**

Mr. H. Macmillan

Twenty-eight.

National Parks (Draft Maps)

HC Deb 27 January 1953 vol 510 cc827-8

Mr. Walker-Smith

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **how many county councils had prepared the draft maps of their area required by Section 27 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, by 16th December, 1952;** to how many an extended period for the said preparation has been granted; and what is the maximum extension granted.

Mr. Sorensen

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **whether the county council survey of public footpaths has now been completed;** and to what extent county councils have taken steps to ensure the effective sign-posting of footpaths as many did in pre-war years.

Mr. H. Macmillan

Twelve county councils completed draft maps for the whole of their areas by 16th December, 1952. **Forty-nine county councils were given extensions of time, but 12 of these had prepared maps for parts of their areas.** The maximum extension was 18 months. I have no information regarding sign-posting of footpaths.

Mr. Walker-Smith

Can my right hon. Friend say **whether,** on the evidence available to him, he has formed the impression that **the delay is due to the dilatoriness of county councils or to the over-optimism of the period fixed in the legislation?**

Mr. Macmillan

I feel sure that the delay is due to the fact that **it is a difficult job.**

Footpaths and Bridleways

HC Deb 29 March 1960 vol 620 cc1109-10

Mr. C. Johnson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government and Minister for Welsh Affairs **how many county councils in England and Wales have published definitive maps of their footpaths and bridleways** as required by Part IV of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (Sir Keith Joseph)

Eighteen for the whole of the county and seven for part of the county.

Mr. Johnson

Does not that reply show a very unsatisfactory state of affairs? Will not the Parliamentary Secretary express his concern at the undue delay on the part of those county councils which have not yet completed these definitive maps? Will he invite his right hon. Friend to exercise his powers under Section 37 of the Act to expedite the preparation of these maps?

Sir K. Joseph

My right hon. Friend naturally wants to see an end of this task, but it is an immense one. **All counties but two have published draft maps. Twelve counties have published provisional maps.** This shows that the counties are getting on with the process. **Shortcuts would only throw a great deal more work on the courts or produce a lot of amendments before we reached the definitive maps.** Therefore, we are just letting the process carry on.

Footpaths and Bridleways

HC Deb 07 April 1960 vol 621 c69W

Sir F. Markham

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government and Minister for Welsh Affairs **which counties have not yet published definitive or draft maps of their footpaths and bridleways** as required by the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949; and what steps he proposes to take to compel defaulting county councils to carry out their duties.

Sir K. Joseph

The following county councils have not yet published definitive maps for any part of the county:

- Bedford.
- Berkshire.
- Brecknock.
- Caernarvon.
- Cardigan.
- Carmarthen.
- Chester.
- Cornwall.
- Cumberland.
- Denbigh
- Derby.
- Dorset.
- Essex.
- Flint.
- Glamorgan.
- Hereford.
- Huntingdon.
- Isle of Ely.
- Kent.
- Lancaster.

- Lincoln, Parts of Lindsey.
- Merioneth.
- Montgomery.
- Norfolk.
- Northumberland.
- Nottingham.
- Oxford.
- Pembroke.
- Radnor.
- Sussex, West.
- Warwick.
- Westmorland.
- York, East Riding.
- York, North Riding.
- York, West Riding.
- Carmarthen and Montgomery have not yet published draft maps, but the latter expect to do so this week.

My right hon. Friend is reluctant to use his powers under the Act to expedite the preparation of provisional and definitive maps, since this might result in the publication of maps which were incomplete and therefore liable to cause uncertainty. He hopes that county councils will do their best to push on with the task without obliging him to consider this step.

Rights of Way (Survey)

HC Deb 01 August 1961 vol 645 cc1119-20

Mr. C. Johnson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government and Minister for Welsh Affairs **when he expects the survey of rights of way**, as provided by the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, **to be completed so that the whole of England and Wales will be covered by definitive maps.**

Sir K. Joseph

My right hon. Friend **cannot say** when definitive maps will be available for the whole of England and Wales. **So far 25 county councils in England and Wales have published definitive maps for the whole of their areas and seven for parts of their areas.**

Mr. Johnson

In view of the fact that **the survey should have been completed under the provisions of the Act in 1955, which is six years ago**, will the Parliamentary Secretary invite his right hon. Friend to bring pressure to bear upon the more dilatory councils, or even consider intervening, as he has power to do under the Act, especially as the public interests are being neglected or adversely affected by the long delay?

Sir K. Joseph

This is an immense job needing a great degree of precision. Acceleration would only increase the number of appeals or reduce the accuracy, or both.

Footpath Survey

HC Deb 26 November 1963 vol 685 cc52-3

Mr. C. Johnson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government and Minister for Welsh Affairs **what progress has been made in the Footpath Survey** provided for under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949; and, in particular, **how many of the county councils in England and Wales have published definitive maps.**

Mr. Corfield

I think progress is as good as can be expected in view of the necessary statutory procedure. **Forty-two county councils in England and Wales have published definitive maps for the whole or parts of their areas.**

Mr. Johnson

Does not the hon. Gentleman agree that the timetable for the survey is now hopelessly in arrears? Will he not invite his right hon. Friend to bring some pressure to bear on the responsible authorities to accelerate the survey, or are we to assume that the Ministry is indifferent or powerless in this matter?

Mr. Corfield

We encourage county councils to get on as fast as they can, but there are considerable difficulties. I am sure that, with his great knowledge of this matter, the hon. **Member knows that these procedures take time and that to try to cut corners, as it were, very often takes more time in the long run.**

Footpaths (Definitive Maps)

HC Deb 24 November 1964 vol 702 c1063

Mr. Carol Johnson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **when he expects publication of all the county definitive footpath maps** provided for under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, to be completed.

Mr. MacColl

My right hon. Friend **cannot say** when these maps will all be completed. **The rate of progress depends largely on the objections raised and the number of council staff available for the work.** Over three-quarters of the county councils now have definitive maps for the whole or part of their areas.

Mr. Johnson

As **this process has already taken three times as long as the period envisaged** in the Act, will my hon. Friend's right hon. Friend use his influence and powers to get this completed as soon as possible?

Mr. MacColl

I recognise my hon. Friend's particular interest in this matter. I would welcome any advice and help which he could give us about it. But, as at present advised, my right hon. Friend thinks it better not to overload quarter sessions with many appeals and have badly prepared plans before the final decisions are reached.

Rights of Way, Derbyshire (Definitive Maps)

HC Deb 11 May 1965 vol 712 cc250-1

Mr. Crawley

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **how many definitive maps of rights of way have been produced by the Derbyshire County Council** as required under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949; for what areas; and when the remaining maps will be completed.

Mr. Crossman

Two definitive maps have been produced, for the Swadlincote and Repton districts. I cannot say when the remaining maps will be completed, but I have been in communication with Derbyshire County Council who are, I know, anxious to get on as quickly as possible. I have also sent a reminder to other county councils.

Mr. Crawley

In view of the fact that **this Act has been on the Statute Book for 15 years and an enormous amount still remains to be done**, may I ask whether the right hon. Gentleman will keep up his pressure on the county council?

Mr. Crossman

Yes, Sir, I will. In the case of Derbyshire I find that there were special reasons. The number of footpaths in Derbyshire is almost a record for a county. I satisfied myself that the council is treating this as a matter of urgency, but I made a special request to it that it should regard footpaths in the Peak National Park area as a matter of top priority, as I have done to all other county councils which have parts of national parks in their areas. The right thing is to complete these footpaths and we can deal with the others afterwards.

Mr. Webster

If Swadlincote is to be preserved for the nation, can the collected speeches of the Minister on mortgage rates be also preserved for the public?

Rights of Way

HC Deb 11 May 1965 vol 712 cc29-30W

Mr. Philip Noel-Baker

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **whether he is satisfied with progress in completing maps of public rights of way** under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Crossman

No. Twenty-seven of the county councils in England have completed definitive maps for the whole of their counties, but elsewhere progress is uneven and in some cases far too slow. I was concerned particularly to find that rights of way in some of the national parks and approved areas of outstanding natural beauty have not yet been fully mapped. I have asked the county councils concerned to make special efforts to complete the maps for these areas quickly, and I shall continue to press for better progress elsewhere.

Mr. Hayman

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **what stage the survey of rights of way has reached in Cornwall;** and what steps it is proposed to take to secure publication of a definitive map for the county within the immediate future.

Mr. Crossman

Provisional maps of public rights of way have been **published for 23 of the county districts in Cornwall. The remaining 7 districts have draft maps.** The county council hope soon to publish definitive maps for 22 districts, and they are giving urgent attention to the rest of the county.

East Riding County Council (Rights of Way Survey)

HC Deb 06 July 1965 vol 715 c192W

Mr. Carol Johnson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **what communication he has received from the Yorkshire East Riding County Council about the reasons for that Council's failure to make progress with the Survey of Rights of Way;** and whether he will now use his powers under Section 37 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 to expedite such survey.

Mr. Crossman

I wrote to the East Riding County Council about this on 15th April. I have only just received its reply, and have not yet had time to study it.

Public Rights of Way, East Riding (Map)

HC Deb 07 November 1966 vol 735 cc224-5W

Mr. Peter M. Jackson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government (1) **on what date the provisional map of public rights-of-way in the East Riding of Yorkshire was published** in accordance with his direction under section 37 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949;

(2) **on what date and in what newspapers the East Riding County Council gave notice of the publication of the provisional map** of public rights-of-way in the East Riding.

Mr. MacColl

The provisional map of rights of way is not published but is deposited for public inspection. What is published is notice of the preparation of the map. The preparation of the provisional map for the East Riding of Yorkshire was completed by 27th September. The East Riding County Council are asking parishes about suitable places for the deposit of the maps. As soon as this information has been received notice of the preparation of the provisional maps will be published with advice about where they can be inspected and the maps themselves will be deposited.

Mr. Peter M. Jackson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government on what date, and by what authority, the public footpath from Wood House Farm, Pocklington, to Pocklington Village, via Chapel Hill, was erased from the official copy of the draft map of the public rights-of-way for the East Riding of Yorkshire, which is deposited in Pocklington.

Mr. MacColl

By the County Council before the copy of the map was sent to Pocklington. I understand that the footpath was omitted from the draft map by mistake and the copy was amended accordingly.

Footpaths and Bridleways (Maps)

HC Deb 20 June 1967 vol 748 cc215-6W

Mr. Scott

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **how many county councils have now published definition maps of footpaths and bridleways** as required by the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

Mr. Willey

Forty-four in England for the whole or part of their area.

Footpaths, Bridleways and Tracks (Survey)

HC Deb 12 December 1967 vol 756 cc91-2W

Mr. Lipton

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government **which counties have** complied with the requirement of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 to **complete the survey of footpaths, bridleways and old tracks; which counties have not yet complied; and what action he is taking to enforce compliance.**

Mr. Skeffington

Definitive maps cannot be published until all disputes have been resolved, but recent progress towards completion of the survey has been good. Every effort is being made to expedite matters and my right hon. Friend has directed one county (Yorkshire East Riding) to publish its definitive map by the end of the year.

Following is the available information:

Counties which have completed definitive maps for the whole of their area:

Berkshire	Rutland
Buckinghamshire	Shropshire
Cumberland	Staffordshire
Dorset	Suffolk (East)
Durham	Suffolk (West)

Essex	Surrey
Hampshire	Sussex (East)
Herefordshire	Warwickshire
Isle of Wight	Westmorland
Lancashire	Wiltshire
Leicestershire	Worcestershire
Lincoln (Parts of Holland)	Yorkshire (North Riding)
Lincoln (Parts of Kesteven)	Anglesey
	Breconshire
Norfolk	Cardiganshire
Northamptonshire	Flintshire
Northumberland	Merioneth
Oxfordshire	Pembrokeshire
	Radnorshire

Counties which have (not = typo) completed definitive maps for the whole of their area:

Bedfordshire	Kent
Cambridge and the Isle of Ely	Lincoln (Parts of Lindsey)
Cheshire	Nottinghamshire
Cornwall	Somerset
Derbyshire	Sussex (West)
Gloucestershire	Yorkshire (West Riding)
Hertfordshire	
Huntingdon and Peterborough	Carmarthenshire
	Monmouthshire

Counties still without definitive maps:

Caernarvonshire	Glamorgan
Denbighshire	Montgomeryshire

Public Rights of Way (East Riding)

HC Deb 26 March 1968 vol 761 c1139

Mr. Peter M. Jackson

asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government on what date the East Riding County Council complied with his direction to them under Section 37 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, to publish a definitive map of public rights of way by 26th December, 1967.

Mr. Skeffington

The East Riding Council completed the preparation of its definitive map by 26th December, 1967. Notice of the preparation of the definitive map with details of the places where copies may be inspected was published on 22nd March.

Mr. Jackson

I welcome my hon. Friend's reply, but, first, would he agree that it is not altogether unconnected with the fact that I tabled a Question on this matter, and, secondly, **would he urge on the county council the need to commence a review in order that outstanding issues may be determined?**

Mr. Skeffington

The desirability of commencing the review has been brought to the notice of the authority concerned. **Preparation of the map has taken a very long time, but there were objections to a very large number of paths and many hearings had to take place.** This should be understood when considering the background to this matter.

Public Footpaths

HC Deb 28 February 1972 vol 832 cc32-3W

Mr. David Clark

asked the Secretary of State for the Environment **which of those counties which were in the process of revising their surveys on public footpaths** under the Highways Act, 1949, when the Countryside Act, 1968, became effective have and **have not now completed their revision.**

Mr. Graham Page

This information is **not readily available.**

Mr. David Clark

asked the Secretary of State for the Environment **if he will list the counties which have published a draft special review of public footpaths** under the Countryside Act, 1968.

Mr. Graham Page

The following county councils in England have carried out the special review of public footpaths under the Countryside Act, 1968, and have published notices that a revised draft map has been prepared:

- Essex.
- Kent.
- Staffordshire.
- Westmorland.
- Yorkshire East Riding.

Mr. David Clark

asked the Secretary of State for the Environment if he will list the **counties who have yet to finish their initial survey of public footpaths** under the Highways Act, 1949,

procedure.

Mr. Graham Page

The following county councils in England have not yet finished their initial survey of public footpaths under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, but definitive maps have been completed for the major parts of these counties:

- Bedfordshire.
- Cheshire.
- Derbyshire.
- Gloucestershire.
- Somerset.

Public Footpath

HC Deb 22 May 1972 vol 837 c280W

Mr. David Clark

asked the Secretary of State for the Environment if he will make a further statement **listing the counties which have yet to finish their initial survey of public footpaths under** the Highways Act, 1949 procedure.

Mr. Graham Page

The following county councils in England have not yet finished their initial survey of public footpaths under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, but definitive maps have been completed for the major parts of these counties:

- Bedfordshire
- Cheshire
- Derbyshire
- Gloucestershire
- Lincolnshire (Lindsey)
- Somerset
- West Sussex
- Yorkshire (West Riding)

I regret that the information I gave in reply to a Question by the hon. Member on 28th February, 1972, was not complete.