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Peak District Green Lanes Alliance

Information Sheet

It is really important to complain about:-

- damage to routes.
- routes that you are no longer able to use (for any reason).
- illegal use of routes.
- and any dangerous incidents.

The Police, Highway Authorities and PDNPA use such reports to determine priorities for enforcement and expenditure. PDNPA also uses the number of complaints as one of its criteria for assessing routes. Routes with high scores overall go on the list of priority routes (see March 2013 and April 2013 newsletters for these routes.)

Reporting Illegal Off-roading and Dangerous Driving

Report incidents of illegal driving and dangerous driving to the Police by telephone as soon as possible. When you get home, email the Rights of Way Officers at the relevant local authority and at PDNPA. Do not expect any of these organisations to take any action but they should be using the information to identify where there are problems. See below for further information on where vehicle use is legal.

Contacting the Police to report illegal off-roading

The non emergency contact number for all the Police forces covering the Peak District is **101.**

If you are phoning near the boundary of two or more Police forces, it is chance which force you will be connected to initially. Therefore you will need to know what county/unitary authority you are in because it affects which one you will need to be reconnected to. The relevant Police Forces are:

Police force	Area of Peak District National Park covered
Derbyshire	Parts of PDNP in Derbyshire
South Yorkshire	Parts of PDNP within areas covered by Sheffield and Barnsley Councils
Staffordshire	Parts of PDNP within Staffordshire
West Yorkshire	Parts of PDNP within Kirklees
Greater	Parts of PDNP within Oldham
Manchester	
Cheshire	Parts of PDNP within Cheshire East (may be shown as Cheshire on older
	maps)

The Police will ask you for the location, type of vehicles involved, how many vehicles, and if there were any distinguishing marks. If you can do it safely, get registration numbers and photographs. Ask the Police for an incident number because if there is no

incident number the incident may not get into Police statistics. Don't expect any immediate action but you should get some feedback.

Poor condition of a Route or Deterioration in the Condition of a Route or No Longer Able to Use a Route

Email the Rights of Way Officer at the relevant local authority and PDNPA with your concerns.

How to Find the Status of a Route

If you are reporting illegal off-roading to the Police, you need to know the status of the route. In the countryside, the best information you can get will be that on an up to date OS map. At home, there are other sources available online.

Where is it legal and illegal to drive recreational motor vehicles?

- Driving on a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) is legal unless a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is in place banning motor vehicles. For example, on Chapel Gate, Edale there is a Temporary TRO and on Oven Lane, Macclesfield Forest, Cheshire there is a permanent TRO.
- 'Other Routes with Public Access' (ORPAs): The legal status of these routes has not yet been determined. All that is known is that there is legal access for some users. However, the Police will almost certainly not take any action about offroaders on such a route unless they are driving dangerously or there is a TRO in place. (We are not aware of any permanent TROs on an ORPA within the National Park)
- Everywhere else (eg footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways, open moorland): Recreational motor vehicles will almost certainly be driving illegally. This includes driving 'off piste', i.e. deviating from the route.
- Dangerous driving: is illegal everywhere.

Online information about the status of a route

The ultimate source of information about the status of a footpath, bridleway, restricted byway or BOAT is the Definitive Map which can only be seen at specified council offices. (The Definitive Map will give no information about ORPAs). Some local authorities do have information on line. Unfortunately, each local authority Mapping Portal has a different interface. Generally, you have to navigate to the area you are interested in and then select the correct overlay for Rights of Way.

Table of Contact Details

Authority	Rights of Way Team	Online information re Rights of way
Barnsley	publicrightsofway@barnsley.gov.uk	None
Metropolitan		
Borough Council		

Authority	Rights of Way Team	Online information re Rights of way
Cheshire East Council	prow@cheshireeast.gov.uk	Information about the status of Rights of Way can be found using the Cheshire Mapping Portal and following the menus. Rights of Way are under "Transport and Roads". You are probably best using the OS view. Further information about a route can be found by clicking on the route in question. http://maps.cheshire.gov.uk/CE/interactivemapping/
Derbyshire County Council	Peter.White@derbyshire.gov.uk	Information about the status of Rights of Way can be found using the Derbyshire Mapping Portal and following the menus. Rights of Way are under "Environment". DCC claims this is not the Definitive Map. Further information about a route can be found by using the Map Info symbol and clicking on the route in question. http://derbyshiremaps.derby shire.gov.uk/launch_portal.asp
Kirklees Council	highways.ross@kirklees.gov.uk	Information about individual Rights of Way can be found by using the search facility at http://map.kirklees.gov.uk/publicrightsofway/ . To get the official reference number of a route, you need the map at as large a scale as possible.
Oldham Council	highways@oldham.gov.uk	None
Sheffield City Council	publicrightsofway@sheffield.gov.uk	None

Authority	Rights of Way Team	Online information re Rights of way
Staffordshire County Council	Either use the online form for reporting a fault on their website or email Noreen.Moore@Staffordshire.gov.uk	Rights of Way information is under "Leisure and Culture". The map does not distinguish between different types of route – you will need to use the OS map for that information. http://localview.staffordshire.gov.uk/lvinternet/OnTheMap.aspx
Peak District National Park Authority	rightsofway@peakdistrict.gov.uk	None