

Public Right of Way Landowner Evidence Statement

Landowner id:

For official use only

This statement should be completed and returned either to the person making the application or directly to the Definitive Map Team at Dorset Council.

This statement is intended to provide preliminary evidence about the application. When Dorset Council commences detailed research, an officer may contact you to seek further information or ask you to be interviewed about your evidence.

This statement is designed to help establish whether or not the route being claimed in the application (the “application route”) is a public right of way. It also provides evidence of how it is used (for example on foot, on horseback, by vehicles etc).

You should answer the questions as fully as possible and not keep back any information, whether for or against the public claim. This is important if this information is to be of real value in establishing the status of the application route. The information given may be examined at a public inquiry.

If you need more space please continue on a separate sheet, which will need to be attached to this statement and signed and dated. If you are unable to complete the form without assistance please ensure that the person taking your statement also signs the Statement of Truth (overleaf).

If completing the statement by hand, please ensure it is written legibly and in black ink.

Confidentiality – Please Read Carefully

The information you give in this statement cannot be treated as confidential.

- It may be necessary for the Council to disclose information received from you to others, which may include other local authorities, the Planning Inspectorate and other government departments, public bodies, other organisations, landowners and members of the public. If the application proceeds to a public inquiry your evidence will be made available to the inquiry.
- If the Council proceeds with the application but it is contested (for example by a landowner), there may be a public inquiry. This will be held locally and if you are unable to attend your evidence will be given in writing, but your evidence is of much greater value if you attend in person and are prepared to answer questions about it. Inquiries are kept as informal as possible and Dorset Council can offer guidance with the procedures.
- The information you give in this statement will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016. It is held by the Council’s Definitive Map Team for the sole purpose of processing the application for the route referred to. The information will be kept indefinitely.

Please print your name here

The following personal contact details will be redacted and will not be released by Dorset Council:

Your address.....

.....

.....

..... **Post code**

The information on this page will be redacted and not be made publicly available, however it may be possible to identify you from the information revealed elsewhere

Home Telephone Number

Mobile Telephone Number

Email Address

DECLARATION

General Data Protection Regulation 2016

Under the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 Dorset Council has a duty to inform you about how your personal data will be handled. In order to decide if a public right of way exists it may be necessary to disclose information received from you. The information provided on this statement cannot be treated as confidential (other than your personal contact details). You should provide us with the information requested only if you are happy for it to be placed in the public domain. Do not include information about another person.

This statement and the details contained therein will be considered by the Council to establish whether a public right of way exists and, in signing it, you are acknowledging that it may be made publicly available and published on Dorset Council's website.

Please tick this box to acknowledge that you have read and understood this Data Protection information

Statement of Truth
(please complete this part)

I BELIEVE THAT THE FACTS AND MATTERS CONTAINED IN THIS STATEMENT ARE TRUE AND I HAVE READ THE DECLARATION ABOVE

Signature (of the person making the statement of truth):

.....

(If applicable) Signature of person taking this statement:

.....

Print full name:

Date:
.....

You should keep a copy of the completed statement

Warning: If you dishonestly enter information or make a statement that you know is, or might be, untrue or misleading, and intend by doing so to make a gain for yourself or another person, or to cause loss or the risk of loss to another person, you may commit the offence of fraud under section 1 of the Fraud Act 2006, the maximum penalty for which is 10 years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine, or both.

The information on this page will be redacted and not be made publicly available, however it may be possible to identify you from the information revealed elsewhere

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY LANDOWNER EVIDENCE STATEMENT

Landowner id:

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ABOUT THE APPLICATION ROUTE

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION ROUTE

Describe the application route (include start and finish points and provide OS grid references if you can)

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.....

.....

1. The application route is shown on the plan accompanying the application.

Does this route cross or adjoin your land?

- No
- Yes

If not, no further questions need be answered.

2. Do you believe the application route to be public?

- No
- Yes

(a) If yes, with what status?

- A footpath (public rights on foot only)
- A bridleway (public rights on foot and on horseback or bicycle)
- A restricted byway (public rights on foot, on horseback or any non-motorised vehicle)
- A byway open to all traffic (public rights for all classes of use, including motor vehicles)

(b) For how long have you held this belief?

3. Have you seen, or been aware of, members of the public using the application route?

- No
- Yes

If yes, please indicate below the period, regularity and nature of such use:

| | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Every few months | Once a year | Other (please describe) | Between which years? |
|---------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| On foot | | | | | | | |
| On horseback | | | | | | | |
| By pedal cycle | | | | | | | |
| By car | | | | | | | |
| Other [please specify] | | | | | | | |

4. Have you ever required people to ask permission before using the application route?

If so, please give details, including the date

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5. Have you deposited a map, statement and statutory declaration under Section 31 (6) of the Highways Act 1980?

- No
- Yes

6. Have you, or someone on your behalf, ever turned back or stopped anyone from using the application route?

- No
- Yes

If yes, please give details and approximate dates

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.....

7. Have you, or someone on your behalf, ever told anyone using the application route that it was not public?

No

Yes

If yes, please give details and approximate dates

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.....

8. Have you ever erected notices or signs stating that the application route was not public?

No

Yes

(a) If yes, please give details and approximate dates

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.....

(b) State whether those notices or signs were ever defaced or destroyed

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.....

(c) Show their position on the accompanying plan

(d) What did the signs/notices say?

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.....

9. Have there ever been, to your knowledge, any stiles or gates on the application route?

No

Yes

(a) If yes, please state whether the gate or gates were ever locked and the reason for locking them:

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.....

(b) Show their position on the accompanying plan.

10. Have you ever obstructed the application route?

- No
- Yes

If yes, please state how and when:

.....
.....

11. Please give any further information which you consider would be helpful in reaching a decision as to whether the application route should be recorded as a public right of way

[Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and sign and date it please.]
[If you wish to provide a separate sketch map, please do so and attach to this statement]

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12. During the investigation an Officer from Dorset Council may want to talk to you in order to gather additional information. Would you be willing to provide further information about your knowledge of the application route?

- Yes
- No

(Please make sure you have completed your contact details on page i and read the Data Protection information and signed the Statement of Truth on page ii.)