

Secretary to the Forum

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**Countryside
Access Forum
for
West Sussex**

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If calling ask for

Our reference

Your reference

Fiona MacLeod

FMC/CNE.17/1

10th September 2007

Andrew Crawford
Ccoast and Open Access Team
DEFRA
Zone 1/01 Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6EB

Dear Mr Crawford

Consultation on proposals to improve access to the English Coast

I am writing on behalf of the Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex, (CAFWS) the **independent statutory advisory body** established by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, regarding the above consultation

Forum members represent a great range of experience and knowledge of access issues in the county. They are able to comment with authority on access matters relating to conservation, landscape, farming and forestry as well as all matters regarding public rights of way for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

Members are keen to be involved in such consultations from Defra and other bodies and I am enclosing the completed response proforma from CAFWS for your attention.

Defra is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this Forum in carrying out its function. Please can you ensure that CAFWS is included on Defra's consultee list for all consultations affecting public access.

The Forum looks forward to receiving the outcome of the consultation process

Yours Sincerely

Fiona MacLeod
Secretary
Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex

CC

Louise Goldsmith, WSCC Cabinet Member, Environment and Economy