

Mr Martin Sullivan
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Your

ref:

My ref: MW/NLAF

Date: 10th September 2018

Dear Mr Sullivan,

Re: NCC's policy on Definitive Map Modification Orders

I am writing in reply to your letter of 28th July 2018 in which you convey the Norfolk Local Access Forum's further request for a review of current Norfolk County Council (NCC) policy on Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO).

Norfolk County Council considers that it has covered its legal responsibilities under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act with regard to its policy on DMMOs and that arrangements are fair, and equitable to all parties. The Policy was explained in detail by Ms Denise Bales, Senior Legal Orders Officer on 18th May 2018 (reference DB/17906) in response to your earlier request.

In paragraph 2 of her letter, Ms Bales states:

« The Policy is fair to all parties involved in the legislative process. It is true to say that it necessitates further work by an applicant, but it also encourages a greater community participation in what is, to some extent, a free service and has the added benefit of providing the applicant with a greater sense of responsibility. The County Council still prepares a detailed and documented Statement of Case, which the applicant can adopt as his/her own and which has been found to assist in terms of presentation of arguments at inquiries, hearings and exchanges of written representations. The 2011 policy has been well received and is viewed as being an equitable process. Planning Inspectors have confirmed that it works and is fair to all parties. »

I confirm that no review of the Policy by Norfolk County Council is therefore deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Martin Wilby
 Chair of the Environment, Transport and Development Committee, Norfolk County Council

cc. Nick Tupper, Assistant Director, Community and Environmental Services
 Andy Hutcheson, Environment Manager (Green Infrastructure Strategy and Advice).