Single Core Path Amendment - Approval for Formal Consultation

SU06.02 Loch Brora – West Track, Sutherland

This core path is no longer accessible at Kilbraur due to the loss of a suspension bridge across the River Brora. Section 20C of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 permits The Highland Council to make a single amendment to its core path plan where they consider it appropriate.

At the Local Access Forum meeting of the 12 May 2025 the forum agreed with the proposals to

- Divert the route at Kilbraur to the bridge at Dalvaich, see Map A and;
- To include the track to Farlary/Dunrobin Glen into the core paths plan, Map B and
- Amend the core path at Carrol to the route as proposed by farming tenant, Map C

Initial Consultation

The Access Officer has written to all parties (in July 2025) with an interest in the considered options, as well as the two Community Councils (Golspie and Brora but not Rogart). A number of positive/neutral comments were received with no response from a number of stakeholders. No negative comments were received.

Approval for Formal Consultation

The Sutherland Local Access Forum are being asked to approve the formal consultation on the attached Maps (A, B and C) for a period of two months, not including any holiday periods.

Promotion of the consultation will be by;

- Publication of the consultation on the Councils website/consultation platform
- Written notification to all landowners, tenants and persons with an interest in the land where amendments are to be made. This is required by Section 20B of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.
- Invitation to Golspie, Brora and Rogart Community Councils to comment on the amendment.
- Letter to regional recreational and land management groups (e.g. Scotways, NFUS, BHSS, Deer Management group(s), Ramblers Scotland, Scottish Land and Estates, NatureScot, Cycling Scotland/Developing Mountain Biking in Scotland)
- Copy of the Maps for inspection at public locations in Golspie, Brora, Lairg, Bonar Bridge and Rogart
- News release of the proposed amendment

Post Consultation

If there are no objections to the proposed amendment, then it shall it adopted at the Sutherland County Committee. If any objections are received the Council will seek to resolve these. If any modifications to the amendment are to be considered a further paper will be brought to the Local Access Forum. If the Council wish to submit the amendment to the Scottish Government, with outstanding objection this will be agreed at the Sutherland County Committee.





