



# NOTICE

## To all visitors and users of Thursley, Ockley, Elstead, Royal and Bagmoor Commons

This is to inform all users of the Commons that the public consultation and the proposals on the future management of the Commons has been running for the past two years and is still ongoing. There have been no decisions made nor have we submitted an application to the Secretary of State to install a perimeter fenceline.

Surrey Wildlife Trust in partnership with Natural England and the Ministry of Defence/Defence Estates have considered all the management options including grazing, turf stripping, burning and scrub control, and no decisions have yet been made for future management.

To enable summer grazing; the proposals include a perimeter fence but ALL existing access points will be retained and where appropriate, pedestrian or BHS standard equestrian gates will be installed.

The MOD may be considering some control of dogs on their land at times when this interferes with military training (which is not part of this public consultation), but both Natural England and Surrey Wildlife Trust welcome dog walkers on the Commons and are not proposing any changes to the current access for walkers and dogs on their land.

Surrey Wildlife Trust do not insist that dogs are kept on leads nor do we intend on introducing such a concept regardless of whether the perimeter fencing and extensive grazing comes to fruition or not. However we do expect all dogs to be kept under effective control at all times i.e. be in sight and return immediately when called, especially during the bird nesting season (February to end of August) to prevent disturbance to ground nesting birds and around cattle. We hope that dog owners/walkers take into account and respect the other users of the Commons i.e. horse riders, cyclists, kids on bicycles and the military training.

Please note that we neither know the costs involved nor what the cost would be to install the perimeter fenceline and access gates, as we still do not yet know the outcome of the public consultation. We believe to have the funding already in place would assume that we were putting up the perimeter fencing regardless of what you thought about the proposals.

If anyone is concerned about the future management proposals as part of this public consultation, please contact Surrey Wildlife Trust via telephone on: 01483 795440 or e-mail: [info@surreywt.org.uk](mailto:info@surreywt.org.uk)

THANK YOU