

Your ref:
My ref: 523035
Date: 4.12.09
Contact: ES Business Support
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Office of Environment Services
Executive Director, Brian Smith

By Email

Mr Ben Harris
request-23450-19dbc024@whatdotheyknow.com

Box No. CC1307
Castle Court
Castle Hill
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

Dear Mr Harris

Environment Information Regulation(EIR) Request – Information Supplied

Thank you for your recent EIR request received 20 November 2009, asking if the “*signs on Christ's Pieces and New Square are placed to indicate the effect of a statutory provision, and if so, identify the provision or provisions in question?*”

We cannot find any TROs related to this however I have been advised by our Countryside Access Team that most of the paths running over Christ's Pieces, and one of them running over New Square, are recorded public footpaths. See attached pdf. The County Council does not own the land over which they run.



PROW - Christ's
Pieces-New Squ...

We do not deal with byelaws - if any exist they would have been probably have been done by the City Council.

The following is the advice we would also give to anyone querying what rights exist in relation to the paths;

It is a civil offence to cycle on a public footpath, which would be committing trespass against the landowner. A landowner would be entitled to erect 'No cycling' or other signs to advise users as to how to behave on his land.

Following the coming in to effect of the Natural Environment & Communities Act 2006 it is possible to claim public rights on bicycle for 'restricted byway' status either upon proof of twenty years' use with no lack of intention to dedicate by the landowner/s (sometime less under common law depending on the nature of use). A formal application would have to be made under s53 Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 and any such evidence would have to be assessed along with all other evidence such as signage, which could demonstrate a lack of intention to dedicate under s31 Highways Act 1980.

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If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Council. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you have any queries regarding this letter please contact me, remembering to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Anna Keech
Business Support Officer