



PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY USER EVIDENCE FORM

HCC File Reference (if known) _____

Parish &/or Name of Route (if known) _____

PLEASE NOTE:

- This form is designed to help establish whether or not the claimed route is a public right of way. It also provides evidence of how it is used e.g. on foot, on horseback, by vehicles etc.
- If the County Council proceeds with the claim, but it is contested (e.g. by a landowner), there may be a Public Inquiry. Public Inquiries are usually held locally (i.e. in the village hall). If you are unable to attend a Public Inquiry your evidence may be given in writing, but user evidence is of much greater value if you attend in person and are prepared to answer questions on your evidence (see Question 25). Inquiries are kept as informal as possible, and the County Council will help you give your evidence.
- The information you give in this form will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. It is held by the Rights of Way Unit of Hertfordshire County Council for the purpose of processing your user evidence.
- If a Public Inquiry takes place your evidence, including your personal information and comments, will be made available to the Inquiry in order to be used as part of the case.
- **This form should be completed by one person only and should relate to only one route.** If you need more space please continue on a separate sheet. Please use black ink.

Please return this form to the person who asked you to complete it, or send it to:

The Rights of Way Service, Hertfordshire County Council,
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8DN

If you need any help to complete this form please contact us on 01992 555279.

1. **Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss)**

2. **Address:**

..... **Postcode:**

Telephone: (work) (home)

Email:

3. **Date of Birth:** **NB:** You do not have to give your date of birth, but it helps the County Council assess your evidence.

4. Please give a full description of the route you use and mark it on the attached map.
e.g. where you start from, where you go and where you finish

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5. How have you used the route, and during which years?

(a) on foot	<input type="checkbox"/>	between _____ and _____
(b) on horseback	<input type="checkbox"/>	between _____ and _____
(c) on bicycle/horse-drawn vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	between _____ and _____
(d) with motorised vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	between _____ and _____

6. Were there any years during which you did not use the route at all? YES NO

If YES, which years and why? between _____ and _____

.....

7. How frequently do/did you use the route?

	daily	once a week	once a month
(a) on foot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) on horseback	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) on bicycle/horse-drawn vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) with motorised vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If less than once a month, please specify how many times a year you use the route.

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8. For what purpose do/did you use the route? e.g. for pleasure, going to work etc.

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9. Has the route always followed the line described above? YES NO

If NO, please describe how, when and why it changed.

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10. How wide is the route? [feet][metres]

11. Has the route always been the same width? YES NO

If not, how wide did it used to be? [feet][metres]

12. When you have used the route were you:-

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| (a) an owner | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) a tenant | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (c) an employee | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (d) a family member of any of the above | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you have answered 'YES' to any of the above, please go to Question 14.

13. Did you ever meet the landowner, their employees or family while you were using the route? YES NO

If YES, what did they say?

14. Have you ever been given permission to use the route? YES NO

If YES, who gave you permission and when?

15. Has anyone ever attempted to turn you back or said that you had no right to be on the route? YES NO

If YES, please give details including when this happened.

16. Have you ever seen any notices on or near the route either encouraging or discouraging your use of it? YES NO

If YES (a) where were they? -----

(b) what did they say? -----

(c) when were they present? between _____ and _____

17. Have there ever been stiles, gates or bridges on the route? YES NO

If YES (a) what were they? -----

(b) when were they erected? -----

(c) how long were they in place? -----

(d) did they prevent or deter you from using the route? YES NO

(e) if gates were present, were they ever locked? YES NO

If YES, when and for how long? -----

Please mark the location of any notices, stiles, gates or bridges etc. on the attached map.

18. Has there ever been an obstruction to your use of the route? YES NO

If YES (a) what was the obstruction?

(b) when was it put there?

(c) how long was it in place?

(d) did it prevent or deter you from using the route? YES NO

Please mark the location of any obstructions on the attached map.

19. Do you have any other information about the route which might be useful?
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20. If you wish to add any further details about the route which you cannot show on the attached map, please sketch them here.

21. If necessary, would you be prepared to give evidence at a Public Inquiry in respect of the evidence you have given? YES NO

If not, please briefly explain your reasons.
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I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information I have given is true.

I also understand that this evidence may be presented at Public Inquiry and I authorise Hertfordshire County Council to use this form for that purpose.

Signature: Date:

Please note that the contents of this evidence form may become public knowledge.

If you do not wish Hertfordshire County Council to disclose your personal information and comments prior to a Public Inquiry, to anyone reasonably requiring access to this evidence form, please tick this box.