

Schedule 14 Directions

Anyone who has applied to the local highway authority for a modification to the area's definitive map and statement, and has not been advised of the authority's decision within 12 months¹, can apply in writing to the Welsh Ministers for a direction. The Welsh Ministers may direct the authority to decide the application by a certain date. There is no formal application form.

The 12 months is calculated from the date the authority receives the certificate from the applicant showing that the requirements of Schedule 14 paragraph 2 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act have been complied with.

The Welsh Ministers take a number of issues into account in considering how to respond to such requests and whether she should direct an authority to determine an application for an order within a specific period. These issues include any statement made by the authority setting out its priorities for bringing and keeping the definitive map up to date; the reasonableness of such priorities; any actions that the authority has taken or expressed intentions to take or further action on the application in question; the circumstances of the case, and any views expressed by the applicant.

The decision is made following an administrative assessment of the written cases put forward by the applicant and the highway authority.

All decisions on direction decisions issued on or after 15 August 2012 will be available online

Guidance revised September 2015

¹ A request for a direction cannot be made if the authority has deemed the application to be invalid. Schedule 14(1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 sets out the form and notice for applications. Schedule 7 of The Wildlife and Countryside (Definitive Maps and Statements) Regulations 1993 SI 1993 No.12 also refers.