

Public rights and responsibilities on the footpaths, bridleways and byways of MK

There are hundreds of miles of footpaths, bridleways and byways, known as Public Rights of Way, across MK which you are free to use and enjoy.

To help you get the most enjoyment when out walking, cycling and riding in Milton Keynes, and to ensure the countryside remains welcome to all, we advise the following:

Be prepared. When out walking wear Suitable footwear and warm, waterproof clothing.

Be responsible. Although you are following public rights of way, these do cross private land. Please keep to the path, shut gates behind you and keep dogs on leads where farm animals are present in fields. Please take your litter home. Cars must not be parked where they may cause obstruction to local residents or access to a field.

Be careful. Short sections of some published walks and rides follow narrow country lanes or cross main roads. Take special care on bends and walk to face on-coming traffic.

Be informed. Plan your walk ensuring you have an appropriate map or guide book.

Respect the countryside, wildlife and people who live in the countryside and ensure your activities do not cause damage or undue disturbance



Rights and responsibilities continued

You may:

- Pass and re-pass on a Public Right of Way
- Stop to look at the view, take a photograph, sit down to rest, etc
- Take a pram, pushchair, wheelchair and other natural accompaniments but you may encounter stiles on footpaths
- Take a dog, preferably on a lead, but always under close control
- Take a short route around an illegal obstruction and/or remove an illegal obstacle sufficiently to get past

Please do not:

- Roam over land at will, deviating from the line of the Right of Way unless it is to pass an obstruction
- Use a vehicle on a byway if it is not registered, taxed and insured, or to drive recklessly, carelessly or without consideration
- Use a Right of Way for any purpose other than as a right of passage
- Set up tables, chairs and picnic equipment
- Cause any unnecessary damage
- Pedal recklessly on bridleways
- Scrup fruit e.g. steal apples from an orchard or garden
- Do not allow your dog to endanger grazing animals. Sheep and other livestock can be found in many areas of parkland in Milton Keynes. Keep your dog on a lead at all times around grazing livestock - no matter how well trained they are they may give chase. Under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953 dogs can legally be seized and/or destroyed if they are endangering or worrying sheep.