

DMMO Record of Application

Office use only	BHS ref no BHS-__-__
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PART A: SUMMARY OF APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: _____

Email address: _____

Please read notes on page 2. When completed please return to access@bhs.org.uk

If the application has been made in the name of the BHS, a complete copy of the application including the supporting evidence must be provided to BHS Head Office at access@bhs.org.uk .

Name of Route * (& Dobbin Reference if available)	
Current status of route <small>Circle all that apply</small>	Unrecorded / Footpath / Bridleway / Unclassified County Road / Other:
Status applied for <small>Circle all that apply</small>	Bridleway / Restricted Byway / Byway Open to All Traffic
Your reference*	
County / Highway Authority	
Parish(s)	
Grid References of End Points	
Date of Application	
Local Authority Register Reference	
Web Link to Register	
Name of researcher <small>if different from applicant*</small>	
Total no. of Stars Awarded	
If known, is route currently in use?	YES / NO / NOT KNOWN If Yes, by: Carriage drivers / Horse riders / Cyclists / Walkers

** only if applicable*



This project has been kindly part funded by Sport England through the British Equestrian Federation.



Information for Applicants

With support from Sport England through the British Equestrian Federation, the BHS's 2026 Project is able to offer a £100 payment for each eligible DMMO application, made after 1st January 2018, to record routes in England. Unfortunately, the scheme does not apply in Wales. The following criteria should normally be met to qualify for the payment:

- Applicants are encouraged to plot their routes on the BHS's Dobbin system – www.bhsaccess.org.uk/2026 - and to include the Dobbin reference no. in Part A of this form. This helps coordination between and avoids duplication by researchers.
- The application must be for the addition of a bridleway, restricted byway or byway open to all traffic or for the upgrade of an existing footpath or bridleway. It does not include applications for the addition of a footpath. (See the [Ramblers website](#) for information about their 2026 work.)
- The route applied for must meet a highway of equivalent or higher status at at least one end.
- Applications must follow the methodology described in the Green Book ("Rights of Way: Restoring the Record" - <https://www.britishhorse.com/products/rights-of-way---restoring-the-record--second-edition.html>) and normally score a minimum of 7 stars. If an application scores less than 7 stars but there are other sources of evidence that are not covered in the Green Book that will compensate then please agree this with the BHS 2026 Project Manager beforehand.
- Applicants should complete the whole of this form. In part B, there is no requirement to have checked all the evidential sources listed but it would be useful for nil entries if you could either strike through or delete "not checked", "no evidence found" or "not applicable" (if data doesn't exist for area), whichever does not apply. Please provide reference no. (i.e. County Records Office or Kew's National Archives reference no.) to enable easy retrieval of document if necessary..
- Wholly prescriptive applications - those relying on user evidence only - will not be eligible. However, prescriptive applications accompanied by documentary evidence showing that the claimed rights over the route existed in 1949 and scoring at least 7 stars will qualify.
- Applications must be added to the relevant surveying authority's (generally your County or Unitary Council), statutory register of DMMO applications on or after 1st January 2018, and have a reference number issued. Whilst all authorities should have such a register available and viewable on their website, there are a small number that do not. If this aspect is a problem for your application, please contact the 2026 Project Manager.
- Please ask the council to confirm that your application complies with para 1 Sch 14 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 when you send it to them. If the Council says it is not compliant, then you need to correct the application before payment can be made.
- The BHS supports prior consultation with landowners in appropriate cases, so that applications do not 'come out of the blue' for landowners, and to give them the opportunity to dedicate the route at the correct status if they want to. Applications which are not submitted in the BHS's name will not require landowners to be consulted prior to the submission of the application although we would encourage you to do so if possible. If you do not feel able to consult landowners yourself but would be happy for the application to be submitted in the BHS's name then please contact the 2026 Project Manager to discuss.
- Applicants do not have a right to appeal against a Council's failure to determine the application within 12 months unless they have notified landowners of the application and served the appropriate certificate on the Council. Service of notices and certificates is not a pre-requisite to payment under the scheme.
- Payment will not be made more than once if a route is artificially split into several separate applications unless there are good reasons for applying in that form.
- The main purpose of the project is to protect and safeguard routes that will be of value to equestrian users. The payment will only be available for applications to record such routes of value; it is very difficult in abstract to define what constitutes a valuable route but common sense should normally suffice. We will normally err in favour of recording a route but if you are unsure as to whether a route will qualify please contact the 2026 Project Manager to discuss before embarking on extensive research. Ultimately, the final decision on this issue will rest with the BHS.
- The payment is intended to cover legitimate expenses. Applicants are advised to keep and retain a record of their expenses including travel, mileage (@£0.45/mile), photography and copying charges, land registry fees, etc. should this ever be required by HMRC.

Please also visit the BHS's 2026 Project website at bhsaccess.org.uk/2026 where you can upload your route and share your research with others. If you have queries about the application process, contact the BHS's 2026 Project Manager, Will Steel, by email will.steel@bhs.org.uk.

Once the details on this form have been verified, the applicant will be contacted to make arrangements for the payment of the £100 award.

PART B: DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION

A minimum of 7 stars normally required for an eligible application

The “scoring notes” listed under each document type are only given as a very brief summary and should be used in conjunction with the relevant section of the Green Book.

Document	Green Book Reference (Max. no. of stars available)	Name, Date and relevance of Document Ref. No. of Document	Stars Awarded
<p>1. Old County Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If route shown clearly = 2 stars each • If shown only approximately = 1 star each • If shown on Bartholomew’s = 1 star • NB max 4 stars maximum of 2 stars for each of two maps 	<p>3.3 (4)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>2. Turnpikes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If route is shown as a turnpike (milestones) = 5 stars • If shown as a labelled spur = 4 stars • If shown as an unlabelled spur = 2 stars 	<p>3.4 (5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>3. Inclosure Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If on plan as an ‘awarded public carriageway / public highway/ public road /public bridle road’ and described in award with its name = 10 stars • If shown on both as an ‘ancient road / bridle road’ = 5 stars • If shown on both as a ‘private carriage road’ but carries public bridle rights as well = 10 stars for BW applications only • If shown on either the plan or the award but not both = 5 stars • If shown on both as ‘private carriage road / bridle road’ with maintenance & use allotted to the public = 5 stars 	<p>3.5 (10)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	

Document	Green Book Reference (Max. no. of stars available)	Name, Date and relevance of Document Ref. No. of Document	Stars Awarded
<p>4. Tithe Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If route is labelled at either end indicating that it was a through route between townships = 5 stars If shown, without labelling, but in the same manner as other public roads to day = 3 stars If numbered and shown in apportionment as highway (however described) = 3 stars 	<p>3.6</p> <p>(5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>5. Parish & Estate Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For routes shown continuing, to a labelled destination or in same manner as known highways outside parish or estate boundary = 2 stars Do not count more than two maps 	<p>3.7</p> <p>(4)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>6. River/Drainage Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For routes shown as public in the book of reference, or in a similar manner to other known public vehicular highways = 5 stars 	<p>3.8</p> <p>(5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>7. Railway/Canal Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If described as '<i>public road or bridle road</i>' and the owner described as '<i>surveyor of highways</i>' or similar = 5 stars 	<p>3.9</p> <p>(5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>8. OS 1st edition Area Book:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where area books provide land use information, i.e. 'Public Road' = 3 stars, 'Road' = 2 stars, but 'Occupation Road' = 0 stars If route shown but no land use information enter S14 below 	<p>3.10</p> <p>(3)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	

<p>9. Highway Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highway Board Maps: where route shown as (other) publicly maintainable highways = 4 stars Highway Board Minutes: where the route is clearly identifiable from the text and considered as public highway = 4 stars Parish Highway Maintenance Records: where the route is clearly identifiable and considered as public highway = 4 stars 	<p>3.11.1 (4) 3.11.2 (4) 3.11.3 (4)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>10. County Council main road orders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where order declares route to be maintainable by County = 5 stars Record of request by parish / highway district declined by County apart from on the grounds that route is not highway = 3 stars 	<p>3.12 (5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>11. Quarter of Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> if the order relates to the bridleway or road in question = 10 stars for other paths referred to in the order = 5 stars 	<p>3.13 (10)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>12. OS Boundary Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical presence = 1 star if not counted under OS Published Maps or 1st Edition Maps Annotation to/from 'somewhere' = 1 star If annotation says 'road or bridleway' to / from somewhere = 1 star Discussion about the maintenance of the route as a highway = 5 stars 	<p>3.14 (5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>13. OS object name book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routes described as public, district, parish or 3rd class road = 4 stars Otherwise: roads or lanes (no prefix), authorised by a highways professional (e.g. assistant overseer) = 4 stars Otherwise: roads or lanes (no prefix), authorised by anyone, but where the same book contains entries described as private roads or lanes = 3 stars(cont.) 	<p>3.15 (4)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otherwise: roads or lanes (no prefix), authorised by anyone except the landowner, but where the same book does not contain entries described as private roads or lanes = 2 stars • Otherwise: roads or lanes (no prefix), authorised by the landowner, but where the same book does not contain entries described as private roads or lanes = 1 stars 			
<p>14. OS published maps – generally 1", ½", 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 maps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If suitable comparison or argument can be drawn = 2 stars • If simply shown as a physical feature = 1 star <p>OS Survey Published Maps for professional use – generally County Series 25" maps except for 1st Edition 25" maps if already claimed in section 8 above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where path is shown as separate physical feature = 1 star • If FP or BR (where that is status being claimed) is marked on the map = 1 star • Where a path is shown as part of a land parcel where the rest of the parcel is already recorded as a highway of a higher status = 1 star • For a path that is the terminus of a route that is shown as FP or BR yet has no recorded status = 1 star • For being coloured sienna on First Edition map provided this is also true only of public highways shown on the same map = 1 star 	<p>3.16.1 (2)</p> <p>3.16.2 (4)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>15. Inland Revenue Valuation ("1910 Finance Act") Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White roads or BR deduction = 5 stars • Where a deduction for bridleway was allowed but the route is not certain from the IR documentation = 3 stars 	<p>3.17 (5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	

<p>16. Sales documentation & County farm valuation records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where route is clearly identified or omitted from sale as being public = 3 stars 	<p>3.18</p> <p>(3)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>17. Handover Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where route is shown on map as publicly maintainable highway, usually carriageway = 5 stars 	<p>3.19</p> <p>(5)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>18. Stopping Up orders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> setting out replacement routes = 10 stars where the bridleway or road is shown but is not the subject of the order, or where the bridleway or road is shown in a retention of cables, mains and pipes order = 5 stars 	<p>3.20</p> <p>(10)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	
<p>19. MAF Farm Survey Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where a route runs between two holdings and is excluded from both = 2 stars 	<p>3.21</p> <p>(2)</p>	<p><i>Not checked / No evidential value / Not Applicable</i></p>	

20 Other evidence submitted with application and further relevant information / explanation	Stars Awarded
<p><i>Please continue on additional sheets as needed.</i></p>	
Total stars awarded	