

## **SOAC Part 11 - Farmyards**

Access rights do not apply to farmyards. There are rights of way through some under common law and these are often signposted. Some paths through farmyards are being made core paths, and these also allow responsible access. In some cases, although there is no right there is customary access where there have been few problems arising in the past. In this latter case, the Code advises that land managers consider continuing to allow such access, but this is not by right, unless you wish to officially assert the route as a Right of Way. Some farms have provided and signposted alternative routes. Where these are reasonable alternatives (e.g. where the alternative does not take you a long way out of your way and is a path or has reasonable conditions underfoot), these should be followed. In some cases farmers will allow access through farmyards where the above provisions are not available. Farmyards are potentially hazardous and if taking access you should be careful and move through without lingering unnecessarily. Should you find a location where access through the farmyard is not permitted, but that there is no alternative, then contact the relevant local or National Park Authority Access Officer for advice, and copy correspondence to me. A list is available on the access pages at [www.mcofs.org.uk/access-officer-contact-list.asp](http://www.mcofs.org.uk/access-officer-contact-list.asp).