

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY EVIDENCE FORM
BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, PLEASE SEE THE NOTES AT THE END

Personal Details

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Post Code: [REDACTED]

Telephone No: ... [REDACTED] Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Occupation: *(if retired, give former occupation)*

..... [REDACTED]

Identification of the Alleged Route

Description of the Route *(Mark route on map)*

.....
Please see the original submission made in 2021 as attached.
.....
.....
.....

Start Grid Reference: NZ35965 67478

End Grid Reference: NZ35933 67745

Name of Route *(if named)*: King Charles III England Coast Path - Section SBA-1-S031

Believed Status of the Route Existing Footpath (National Trail & Recreational Path - OS Map 316)
(Footpath, Bridleway, Restricted Byway or Byway Open to All Traffic)

Has the route always run on the same route? *(If not provide details)*

Whilst the path was in existence including its pavement, lamp standards and lighting stanchions, yes. Various sections were blocked progressively. As I remember it the section in front of the call centre was closed first followed by the garden then the edge of the dock.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Your Use of the Alleged Route

When did you first use the route? As I remember it, shortly after moving to South Shields in 2006 or 2007.

When did you last use the route? Until the path was blocked, firstly in front of the "call centre" in around 2017 then being excluded from the edge of the dock during the pandemic in 2020. I cannot recall exact dates.

Was there a period between those dates that you did not use the route *(If yes, when & why?)*
No, I used the path regularly between about 2006 and 2017; maybe once a month perhaps twice, when friends/relatives visited. I was never aware of the route being blocked between these dates.

How did you use the route? *(e.g. foot, horse, cycle, carriage, motor vehicle)*
On foot.

How often did you use the route?
On average about once a month perhaps twice in some months. 12 - 15 times a year (estimated)

If you have stopped using the route, why did you stop?
I can no longer walk the path as it has been blocked by a wooden fence/garden shed at the North end. The pavement has been ripped up to provide gardens for some residents of the South Quays development and is not accessible. The gated South Quays development and its car park insulates the previously provided paved access around the garden and dock area at the south end of the development. A steel barred gate prevents the former free and signposted access to the north side of the ex. Brigham and Cowan dry dock.

The Nature of Your Use

What was the purpose of your journeys?
Pure recreation for the views of the river. I would most often walk the path from Comical Corner to the South Shields ferry landing, take the ferry to North Shields and return by the same route.

Did you see other people using the route? Yes, many people walked the route at the same time, in both directions.

Did other people see you using the route? Yes, the friends and relatives I took to see the views.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Did you encounter or have to remove any obstructions when using the route? (e.g. fences, locked gates etc.) (If yes give details) Not prior to the blocking by the previously mentioned wooden fence/gate; gated car park and gate across the dock.
.....

Did you ever ask for permission to use the route? (If yes give details) No.
No. Why would I ask? It was either obviously a footpath or obviously AND
Were you ever given permission to use the route? (If yes give details) signs posted as a footpath.....

Have you ever owned/occupied land crossed by the route? No.

Have you ever worked for the owner/occupier of the land? No.

If yes, were you ever given any instructions regarding the route? (If yes give details)
.....

Additional Information

Were there any stiles, gates or bridges along the route? (If yes, show locations on map)

No.
.....

Were there any signs along the route? (If yes, give details & show locations on map)

England Coastal Path Signs, which have now been changed without any permission.

Were you ever stopped, prevented, or turned back from using the route? (If yes, give details)

Not by anyone only by the physical barriers.
.....

Any other information you consider relevant
I wrote to Natural England in order to try to understand the legalities and have attached my email correspondence with them. I understand the 20 year rule and that the land or much of it seems to be privately owned. The designation as a national footpath does not seem to confer any rights of access, however I think the circumstances of the various sales of the land and the STC adoption or intention to adopt the path would merit investigation. Why invest in all of the infrastructure that was available for the public's enjoyment without any "intent" to keep it. The change of use of the "call centre" from commercial to residential should also be scrutinised.
.....

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the facts that I have stated are true

Signature: Date: 11 Nov 2024

Signature of person taking statement: (If applicable)

Print Name: [REDACTED]

Note:

1. You may be interviewed by the investigating Authority to confirm the content of this form
2. You may also be asked to attend a public inquiry to give evidence
3. The information contained within this form will be in the public domain and may be disclosed to other parties with an interest in this case. By completing this form, you are confirming you consent for such disclosure. This includes the personal details given.
4. If your recollections of dates and other details are approximate or to the best of your recollection please say so.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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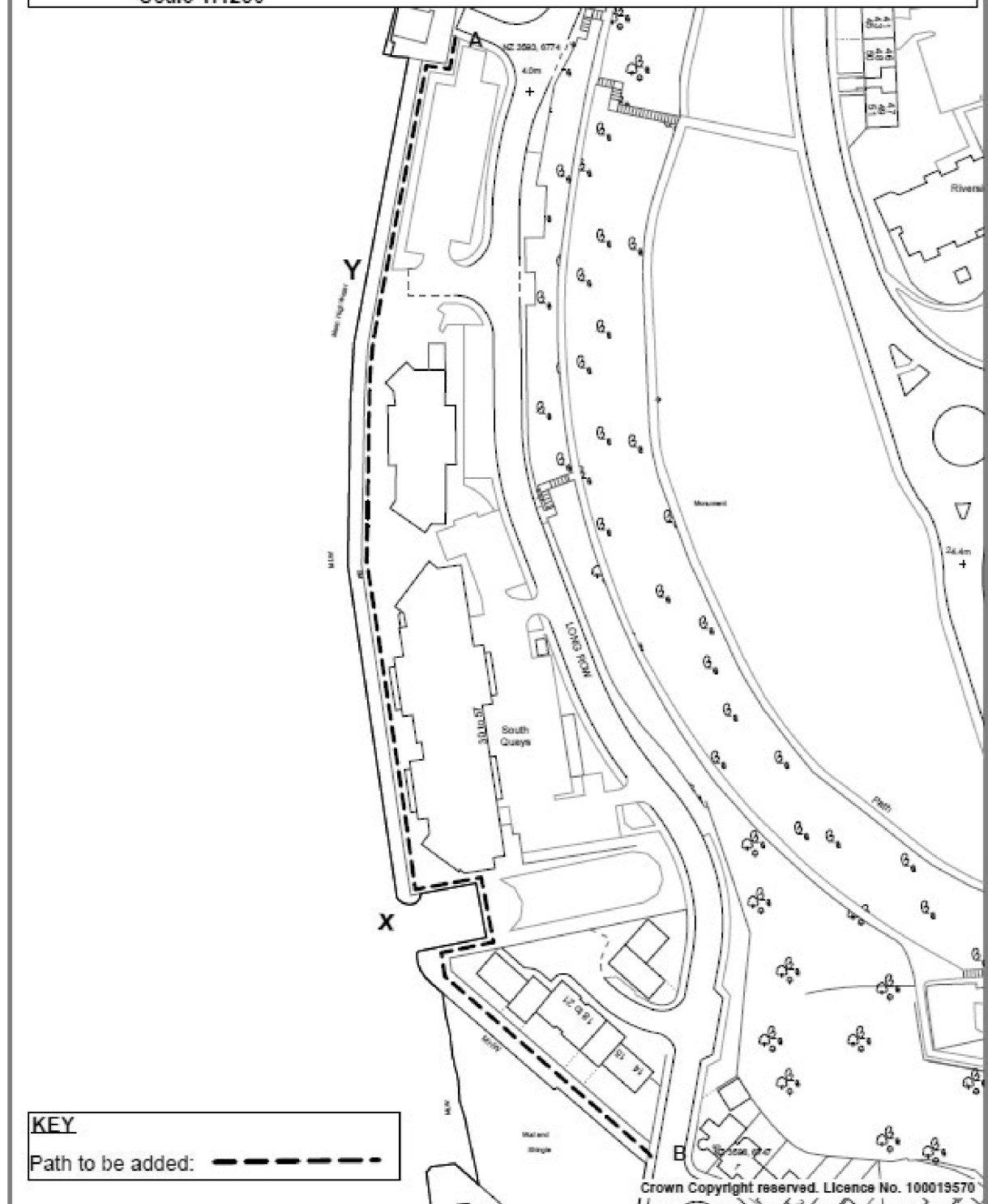
Plan 1



South Tyneside Council
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Definitive Map Modification Order Application
S21 - Long Row
Scale 1:1250



NZ 35 67



[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]