

NORTH YORKSHIRE
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

THURSDAY 20th May 2010

RECORD OF ACTIONS

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report contains a record of those actions completed following the February meeting of the Forum.

2.0 ACTIONS COMPLETED

- 2.1 Letter sent to Mr M Spink, Highways Agency project manager for the A1 upgrade, requesting that the LAF are consulted.(Appendix 1)
- 2.2 Letter sent to Richard Brooks of the MOD thanking him for his presentation at the February meeting, highlighting the points raised with regard to equestrian access and enquiring how the relationship can be taken forward.(Appendix 2)
- 2.3 Letter sent to Richard Holmes, chair of the Wakefield LAF, endorsing the continuation of the England Access Forum. (Appendix 3)
- 2.4 Letter sent to DEFRA welcoming the production of guidance on structures and highlighting the importance of surfacing when considering access for all. (Appendix 4)

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that members receive this report for information

Contact Officer:
Aidan Rayner
Public Rights of Way Team Leader
01609 533077

ITEM 10 APPENDIX 1

Your ref:

Our ref:

Contact: Stephen Ramsden

Tel: 0845 0349599

08 April 2010

Dear Mr Spink

A1 Upgrade – Northern Section

I am writing on behalf of the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum with regard to the proposed upgrade of the northern section of the A1 in the County.

The Forum is a Statutory body with a remit of providing advice on access to land for open air recreation to a range of bodies set out in s.94 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. We would be most grateful for the opportunity to be involved with consultations on the A1 project at the earliest opportunity given its likely direct and indirect impacts on recreational road and rights of way users.

Documents can be sent to the following address:

Local Access Forum Secretary
North Yorkshire County Council
Committee Services
County Hall
Northallerton
DL7 8AH

Thank you in anticipation of your assistance.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Ramsden
Chair, North Yorkshire LAF

Mr M Spink
Project manager
Highways Agency
3 South
8 City Walk
Leeds
LS11 9AT

Your ref:

Our ref:

Contact: Stephen Ramsden

Tel: 0845 0349599

08 April 2010

Public Rights of Way

Economic and Rural Services

County Hall, Northallerton

North Yorkshire DL7 8AD

Tel: 01609 534045

Fax: 01609 532540

E-mail: paths@northyorks.gov.uk

www.northyorks.gov.uk

Dear Mr Brookes

North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

I am writing on behalf of the Forum to thank you and your colleagues for your presentation at our last meeting.

It was interesting to learn of your plans for the Catterick site and it certainly generated some healthy debate amongst members. One point that the forum would like to emphasise is that consideration be given to facilitating equestrian access on as many routes as possible, particularly with a view to enabling good access to the Saddle Club.

On behalf of the Forum I look forward to an ongoing relationship for the benefit of access at Catterick. At the meeting we discussed the benefit of a named representative to liaise with the forum on a regular basis and I look forward to your suggestion as to how this can be taken forward.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Ramsden
Chair, North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

Mr Richard Brooks
Environmental Adviser
Building 97a, Land Warfare Centre
Imber Road
Warminster
Wiltshire
BA12 0DJ

ITEM 10 APPENDIX 3

Your ref:

Our ref:

Contact: Stephen Ramsden

Tel: 0845 0349599

08 April 2010

Public Rights of Way

Economic and Rural Services

County Hall, Northallerton

North Yorkshire DL7 8AD

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Dear Mr Holmes

The England Access Forum

I am writing in response to Duncan Graham's letter regarding the issue of continuation of the England Access Forum.

In light of the current debate around the Forum I have canvassed our own LAF members to establish the view on this body and I can report that the North Yorkshire LAF considers that the continuation of the EAF is both valuable and necessary in informing the debate on access.

I would be grateful if you could include the view of the North Yorkshire LAF in formulating a response to the ongoing discussions around the EAF.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Ramsden
Chair, North Yorkshire LAF

CC. Duncan.graham01@virginmedia.com

Richard Holmes
Chair Wakefield LAF
9 Brooke Court
Pontefract
WF8 3SH

Your ref:

Our ref:

Contact: Stephen Ramsden

Tel: 0845 0349599

08 April 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

Consultation on the DDA 1995 and structures on Rights of Way

I am writing on behalf of the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum with regard to your recent consultation on the above draft document.

Following discussion at our last meeting, the view of the forum is that this is a welcome document which should inform and improve the approach taken by Highway Authorities in dealing with structures on rights of way.

An area which the forum felt could be explored in more depth, particularly with regard to the ease of use of routes by people of all abilities, is surfacing of rights of way. When taken in conjunction with structures these form the most important factors when considering the accessibility of networks. It is hoped that you will give further consideration to surfacing.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Ramsden
Chair, North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR