

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form

April 2016 to July 2017

Name of LAF	North Yorkshire Local Access Forum
Name of LAF Chair	Roma Haigh
Name of LAF Secretary	Kate Arscott

Total number of LAF members (includes 3 vacancies)	17
Number of members representing users of public rights of way or access land	10
Number of members representing owners and occupiers of access land or land over which PROW subsist	3
Number of members representing other interests	2

Number of full LAF meetings held	5	Number of sub-group meetings held	1
Number of working groups led by others	0	Number of training days provided by the Appointing Authority	0
How many km of PROW have been improved due to LAF input?	?	How much funding did the LAF (or an associated body) raise?	£0.00
How many extra volunteer hours were committed to public access (not including LAF committee meetings)?			?

Partners your LAF worked with during 2016/17 (click on a box or type 'x')

Local Nature Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Enterprise Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and Wellbeing Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>	LEADER funding Local Action Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>

The LAF has also worked with the following partners:

- Regional Access Forum
- Teesdale Way Project
- River Swale Partnership
- Attendance at National Conferences in 2016 and 2017

LAF achievements/making a difference?¹ Please give examples to illustrate how your LAF has improved public access to land for the purpose of open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area. Do you think your LAF has made a difference to public access in your area via its discussions and actions?

Formal responses to Local Development Plan documents for the County Council and 7 District Councils that fall within the LAF area, as well as individual planning applications where appropriate.

Involvement in the development of the County Council's approach to increasing the role of volunteers, including direct involvement in the pilot project with the Lower Wharfedale Ramblers through an individual LAF member .

Promotion of work with schools, linked to the development of the County Council's Pathways to Health Project

Monitoring the progress of the Countryside Access Service Review and contributing to the County Council's consultation on proposals for future prioritisation of work on Public Rights of Way.

¹ These achievements form an important part of the national annual report that is submitted to Defra/Minister and help to promote the work and good practice of LAFs

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What activity did your LAF undertake to help record historical PROW before 2026?

The LAF has identified this as a standing item on its agenda. It was identified as a priority for 2016/17 by the LAF in its 2015/16 annual report. The LAF was awaiting further information from government before developing its strategy. No further information has come forward since the time of the last report.

Please add numbers to the following differentiating between formal consultations and general advice given by the LAF on particular subjects. If a consultation covered more than one subject area, please count separately.

	Consultations	Advice	Optional Detail
Green Infrastructure strategies			
Transport (LTP, traffic management, rail, DfT, Highways Agency)		1	Scotch Corner Retail Development (Richmondshire DC)
Water / Coast (slipways, flood defence, EA, shoreline)			
Public open space (public space protection orders)			
Dog control/exclusion/on leads/fouling orders			
Planning applications /Housing development schemes	10+		Liaison between individual LAF members and District Councils and NYCC on individual applications
Land use and planning matters (e.g. informal advice on land development)			
Local development frameworks and planning strategies	8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harrogate Borough Council draft Local Plan Consultation • Hambleton District Council Draft Local Plan Consultation – Preferred Options • Joint Minerals & Waste Plan Consultation – Publication • Scarborough Local Plan Main Modifications Consultation • Hambleton District Council Alternative Sites Consultation • Hambleton District Council Green Spaces Consultation • Craven District Council Draft Local Plan Consultation • Harrogate Borough Council Local Plan Alternative Sites Consultation

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PROW creation, diversion or closure - number of each			
Recording lost ways/historical rights - working towards the 2026 cut-off			
Right of Way Improvement Plan review			
Route improvements (to PROW and other multi-user/cycling/horse-riding/walking routes)			
Promotion of access, open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area	1		NYCC Public Rights of Way consultation
Vehicular access and issues relating to motorised use of PROW			
Parish Council or other grant schemes			
Access for people with reduced mobility			
Commons, village greens			
Open Access land restrictions			Notifications circulated for information
Coastal Access/National Trails			
NNR dedication			
Greenspace including Country Parks and Local Nature Reserves			
Nature conservation (including SSSIs)			
Agri-environment scheme issues (HLS and new Countryside Stewardship) e.g. expiring permissive access agreements, effects of land management options on public access etc.			
Forestry and woodland	1		Forestry Commission woodland creation proposal (Richmondshire)

² The Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000, Section 94(4) specifies that it is the function of a local access forum, as respects to the area for which it is established, to advise the appointing authority; the local highway authority; other bodies exercising functions under CROW Act Part 1 (Natural England, Forestry Commission and English Heritage) and such other bodies as may be prescribed. These other bodies are set out in the LAF Regulations 2007, paragraph 21, and include: any conservation board established by the Secretary of State, any parish or town council in the area covered by the LAF, and Sport England

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Any other LAF activity (please specify):

Engagement with the Executive Councillor and commitment to future regular discussions

Formal confirmation of updated position statements on LAF Principles and LAF Advice to District Councils.

Working group on highways design and planning issues

Discussions on Highways Authority and Landowner Responsibilities

Liaison by LAF members regarding a range of issues, such as A1(M) upgrade, Catterick Garrison, HS2

Invitations to participate in Trans Penine Trail Partnership and Yorkshire Wolds Way Partnership and to attend launch of England Coast Path in North Yorkshire and Teesside

What are your top priorities for the year ahead?

Continuing to work with NYCC on increased use of volunteers; continuing to contribute to the development of Local Development Plans; closer working with the Appointing Authority; webpage for NYLAF

Do you foresee any issues or challenges that may affect your LAFs operation and/or its ability to deliver improvements to public access in the coming year?

The current financial climate continues to restrict the support available to the LAF at a national, regional and local level, as well as the ability of partners to fund and deliver improvements

Is there any particular support or training that you need to deliver your priorities or work program for next year?

Summarise any feedback received from section 94(4) bodies²

Comments acknowledged and formally reported in relation to Development Plans, planning applications and other consultations

Progress reports from North Yorkshire County Council Countryside Access Service

Comments from the Appointing Authority

The Local Access Forum has broadened the scope of the organisations that it has provided formal advice to in the past year, with particular reference to the significant number of Local Development Plan consultations that have taken place across the 7 District Council areas covered. LAF members have been particularly involved, both directly and indirectly, in the development of the County Council's approach to increasing the use of volunteers.

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Comments from LAF Chair

Any other comments

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