



Agenda

- Meeting:** North Yorkshire Local Access Forum
- To:** Councillors Paul Sherwood (Chair), Dick Brew, Janet Cochrane, Rachel Connolly, Roma Haigh, David Lepper, Will Scarlett, Kath Topping, Cllr Robert Heseltine, Cllr David Jeffels and 3 Vacancies.
- Date:** Wednesday, 1st June 2022
- Time:** 10.00 am
- Venue:** Brierley Room, County Hall, Northallerton

This meeting is being held as an in-person meeting and in public. The government position is that of learning to live with COVID-19, removing domestic restrictions while encouraging safer behaviours through public health advice. In view of this, hand cleanser and masks will be available for attendees upon request. The committee room will be well ventilated and attendees encouraged to avoid bottlenecks and maintain an element of social distancing. Please contact the named supporting officer for the committee, if you have any queries or concerns about the management of the meeting and the approach to COVID-19 safety.

Please do not attend if on the day you have COVID-19 symptoms or have had a recent positive Lateral Flow Test.

Further details of the government strategy (Living with COVID-19 Plan) is available here – <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-guidance-sets-out-how-to-live-safely-with-covid-19>

Business

- 1. Introductions & Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 January 2022** (Pages 3 - 8)
- 3. Public Questions & Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice to Melanie Carr of Democratic Services (*see contact details at bottom of page*) by midday on Friday 27 May 2022, three working days before the day of the meeting. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public, who have given notice, will be invited to speak:

 - At this point in the meeting if their questions/statements relate to matters which are not otherwise on the Agenda (subject to an overall time limit of 30 minutes);
 - When the relevant Agenda item is being considered if they wish to speak on a matter which is on the Agenda for this meeting;

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chairman who will ask anyone who may be taking a recording to cease while you speak.

4. **Attendance of a Network Rail Representative**
5. **Update on the Coast to Coast National Trail from Natural England**
6. **Update from National Highways on proposed A19 Safety Improvements;**
7. **Definitive Map Team Update** (Pages 9 - 12)
8. **Secretary's Update Report** (Pages 13 - 16)
Purpose: To update LAF members on developments since the last meeting.
9. **District Council & LAF Project Updates** (Pages 17 - 20)
Purpose: An opportunity for LAF members to update the Forum on District Council liaison and other LAF representative project activity since the last meeting.
10. **Forward Plan** (Pages 21 - 22)
Purpose – To consider, develop and adopt a work programme for future LAF meetings.
11. **Other business which the Chairman agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.**

Contact Details

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Melanie Carr Tel: 01609 533849 or e-mail:

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Barry Khan
Assistance Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

24 May 2022

North Yorkshire County Council

North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

Minutes of the remote meeting held on Wednesday, 26th January 2022 commencing at 10.00 am.

Paul Sherwood in the Chair. Plus Dick Brew, Janet Cochrane, Rachel Connolly, Roma Haigh, David Lepper, Will Scarlett and County Councillor David Jeffels.

Officers present: Ian Kelly, Louise Neale and Allan McVeigh.

Apologies: Kath Topping and County Councillor Robert Heseltine.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

329 Introductions & Apologies for Absence

Following members of the Local Access Forum introducing themselves, the Chair confirmed apologies had been received from Kath Topping and Councillor Robert Heseltine.

330 Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 September 2021

Resolved - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2021 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair. A number of outstanding matters arising were discussed, and it was agreed that:

- Ian Kelly would circulate a previous 2017 CAS Prioritisation report;
- Ron Allan would provide an update on the Definitive Map Team at the next Forum meeting;
- Louise Neale would provide a future update on the ongoing A59 Knaresborough to York Study;

Ian Kelly also confirmed the User Group had not met since May 2021 and that previously a number of ex-Forum members had previously attended those meetings, but not as a representative of the Forum, as a representative from other interested user groups.

331 Public Questions & Statements

There were no public questions or statements.

332 Update on Active Travel in North Yorkshire

Louise Neale, Transport Planning Team Leader highlighted a renewed and extended emphasis on sustainable travel nationally, and provided an update on Active Travel which included:

- An overview of a new local transport note – LTN120 issued in July 2020, covering how to plan for cycling, the required space for cycling, junctions and crossings etc;
- The barriers to modal shift to cycling i.e. the perceived danger associated with cycling such as the volume and speed of traffic;

- The various categories of infrastructure e.g. segregated cycle paths, light segregation, cycle lanes etc;
- The challenges associated with the implementation of LTN120;
- An update on cycling in relation to the Definitive Map – it was noted there was no facility to record cycle paths and cycleways on the Definitive Map;
- Use of the planning process to increase active travel infrastructure – it was noted that whilst there was no obligation on developers to improve active travel opportunities, they were often asked to. Whilst the Authority could ask for cycling infrastructure, the associated costs were often a barrier to their inclusion in planning applications.
- Funding for cycling improvements came from central Government;
- The changes to the Highways Code would affect cycling but would not affect the design of infrastructure;

Paul Sherwood raised the issue of the Authority's interface with National Highways in relation to cycleways / bridle path. He noted that they often end when they come to a trunk road with no facility for onward movement. Louise Neale confirmed that where this issue occurred, it was often an historic scheme. On newer schemes, the Local Authority worked with partners e.g. National Highways, Network Rail etc in an attempt to ensure a meaningful end to cycleway / bridle path route, but that it was not always possible due to a range of reasons e.g. lack of funding.

County Councillor David Jeffels referred to the use of barriers to aid cyclists by making the road safer and reducing the speed of traffic. He also suggested the use of 106 money from housing developers to finance the appropriate infrastructure to enable sustainable travel options.

It was noted that the Highways Asset Management team were currently mapping the entire cycling infrastructure across the county that was not public rights of way, which once completed would be added as an additional layer on the map available via the NYCC website.

Rachel Connolly drew attention to the NYLAF letter to the DfT, which highlighted the lack on inclusivity in DfT's policy and approach, and noted that the ambiguity of the DfT's response. Louise Neale confirmed the Authority did refer enquiries to, and consult with, the British Horse Society where appropriate.

In regard to Active Travel Plans, Louise Neale confirmed that to date the focus had been mostly on urban areas, but the Authority was currently in the process of developing a feasibility plan for the Stokesley/Guisborough area. She noted it was harder to get funding for not urban areas and confirmed that LGR was not preventing the team's work from progressing. Will Scarlet suggested that horse riders and carriage drivers would welcome the opportunity to be consulted on schemes.

Finally, the Chair suggested that the condition of the highways made cycling hazardous.

The Chair thanked Louise Neale for her update, and it was

Resolved: That the update be noted.

333 Secretary's Update Report

Considered –

The report of the Secretary, which updated on developments since the last meeting. Attention was drawn to the overview provided on the work of the Countryside Access

Service throughout the pandemic period, and the update on the working relationship between the NYCC's Countryside Access Service (CAS) and the District Council's planning departments, both provided by Ian Kelly, CAS Manager.

It was confirmed that the future of the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum would not be affected by the introduction of the new Unitary Authority to May 2023, as there would still be a requirement for it to exist. It was also noted that the Executive intended to recommend to County Council that meetings would continue to be held virtually unless they were formal decision-making meetings. Members confirmed they would prefer to meet in person, particularly when a meeting was to include a presentation. It was agreed that the Chair would write to the Leader to make him aware of the Forum's views, with a request that the next meeting be held in person, and Cllr David Jeffels agreed to make Full Council aware of the Forum's views at the meeting of Full Council in February 2022.

Finally, consideration was given to the draft UUR position statement at Appendix A and Forum members agreed to sign it off for adoption and it was agreed to formally submit a copy to NYCC.

Resolved – That

- i. The update be noted;
- ii. The Chair write to the Leader with a request to hold the next NYLAF meeting in person;
- iii. The draft UUR position statement at Appendix A be signed off for adoption and formally submitted to NYCC;

334 District Council & LAF Project Updates

Considered –

The report of the Secretary giving LAF members the opportunity to update the Forum on District Council liaison and other LAF representative project activity since the last meeting.

In addition to the information provided for the report, Will Scarlett confirmed that his work to consider the four consultation policies referred to in paragraph 3.2 was ongoing, and that he was pleased to note the positive way in which they had been written, all referencing active cycle routes etc.

In regard to the table at paragraph 2.1, the following amendments were agreed:

- Selby District Liaison to be removed from David Lepper and 'Protected Landscapes' added;
- HS2 to be removed;
- A19 to be removed from Rachel Connolly and taken on by Roma Haigh

Roma Haigh confirmed she had responded to a Ryedale District Council consultation on housing developments. She also drew attention to the coming 40th Anniversary of the Yorkshire Wolds Way.

In regard to the A1, Rachel Connolly confirmed that fencing was to be removed and laurel bushes planted in order to address the issue with glare.

In regard to the Coast to Coast National Trail, Ian Kelly suggested an update be brought to the next meeting and that a representative from National England be invited to attend.

Andrew Mackintosh from Natural England joined the meeting at 11:27am to provide an overview of Natural England's new land management scheme, and to provide feedback on

a list of questions previously drawn up by Forum members.

In response to those questions Andrew Mackintosh confirmed his particular role was as a specialist for public access, recreation and rights of way, providing input to environment schemes and the interaction of other interests such as conservation, bio-diversity and landscape, and their interaction with public access etc. He also confirmed Natural England's access team was expanding to allow their role within public access to expand.

Members noted that much of the current rights of way network was fragmented, and questioned whether under ELMS, farmers would be offered grants to create new permissive routes. They also noted that although new or improved public access was included as one of the 'public goods' in the original ELMS consultation, it appeared to have slipped down the agenda. They expressed concern that it might even disappear as an option. In response, Andrew Mackintosh confirmed the question of what public goods might cover was yet to be made clear as a final announcement was still awaited. He also confirmed Natural England had put evidence forward to DEFRA on a range of things for consideration, including the pros and cons of permissive access, permanent access and the advantages of enhancing accessibility and better infrastructure all round.

He also confirmed:

- If access was not included in ELMs, Natural England would be seeking the introduction of some other delivery mechanism;
- The future timetable would not be known until the expected announcement was made;
- The timespan for new ELMS agreements was still unknown.
- Countryside Stewardship Access Agreements were coming to an end, meaning that many well used and valued permissive paths could disappear. In response, Natural England had submitted a bid for an evidence project to look at what happened to those permissive access agreements under stewardship;
- The current cross compliance system would come to an end within the next couple of years and the future regulations would look like for a whole range of environmental issues was still unknown;
- The Coast to Coast Path was currently being reviewed and Natural England was currently carrying out an initial survey of the route to look at the practicalities involved, after which a timetable would be drawn up and a consultation process undertaken;
- His main concern was whether landscape and bio-diversity would be prioritised over public access;
- A case had been made for providing more Local Access Forum support in the future, via a new part-time role within Natural England;

The Chair thanked Andrew Mackintosh for attending the meeting and requested that an update on the Coast to Coast National Trail be brought to the next Forum meeting.

Resolved – That:

- i. The additional information provided at the meeting be noted;
- ii. The table at paragraph 2.1 of the report be updated to reflect the information provided at the meeting;
- iii. An update on the Coast to Coast National Trail be added to the work programme for the next meeting;

335 Work Programme

Considered –

Members considered the Forward Plan provided at Appendix 1 to the report, and invited members to identify any additional items of business to be added.

It was also noted that an informal meeting was being arranged with National Highways to enable them to discuss with Forum members design proposals for A19 safety improvements. The suggested date for that meeting was 1st March 2022. It was noted that National Highways would then attend the Forum's next scheduled meeting to formally present and consult on the agreed design.

Finally, Members requested an update on the work of the Countryside Access Service, to include an update on how ROW issues were managed and prioritised, and on CAS budgets. In response, Ian Kelly requested a list of specific questions to give clarity on exactly what information members were seeking. He also confirmed that the planned development and introduction of an online customer portal had been delayed.

In light of the discussions at the meeting, it was

Resolved - That :

- i. The Work Programme document be updated for the next meeting to include:
 - An update on the Definitive Map team
 - An update on the Coast to Coast National Trail from Natural England;
 - A presentation from National Highways on their proposed A19 Safety Improvements;
- ii. A sub-group be formed to draft a formal LAF response to the Landscapes consultation;
- iii. Forum members draw up a list questions about CAS, for Ian Kelly's consideration, so that a written response can be provided;

336 Other business which the Chairman agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.

David Lepper provided a brief overview of his consideration of the 'Landscapes' consultation and suggested he draft a response and circulate it to other Forum members for their views.

Ian Kelly confirmed he had some consultation with the AONBs, and that his team managed all the ROW in the AONBs.

Resolved:

That a sub-group be formed to draft a response to the Landscapes consultation, made up of the following Forum members, (for later circulation to all members for sign off):

David Lepper
Janet Cochrane
Will Scarlett
Dick Brew

The meeting concluded at 12.26 pm.

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North Yorkshire County Council

North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

1 June 2022

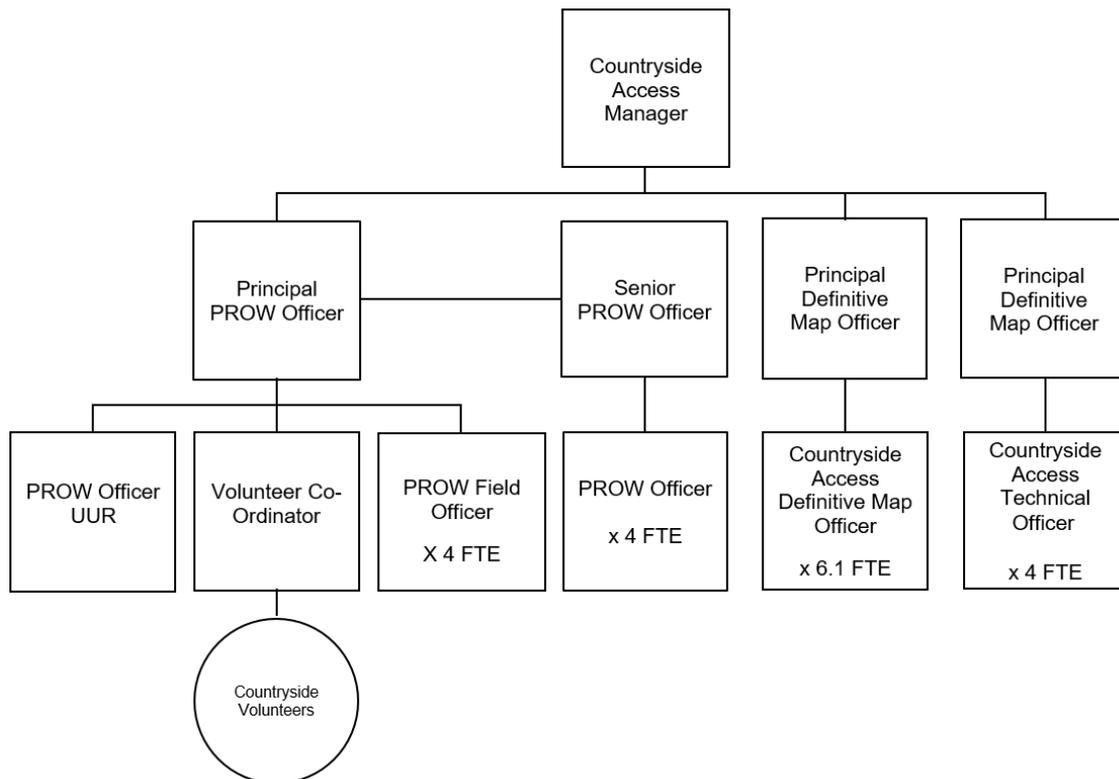
Countryside Access Service - Definitive Map Team Update

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide NYLAF with an update on the progress the Definitive Map Team are making towards their main function of keeping the Definitive Map and Statement up to date.

2.0 Staffing

- 2.1 The Countryside Access Service is comprised of two teams – The Access Maintenance Team and the Definitive Map Team (DMT), both of which are supported by a small team of Technical Officers. See structure chart below.



- 2.2 The structure of the Definitive Map team has been reviewed in recent years and has seen the inclusion of an additional Principal Definitive Map Officer focussing on performance and service improvement. The FTE of Definitive Map Officers has increased to 6.1 FTE, building capacity and improving the output of the team.

- 2.3 The Definitive Map Officers are split into two sub-teams, three officers cover the Western area of the county (Craven, Harrogate and Richmondshire) and four cover the eastern area (Scarborough, Ryedale, Hambleton and Selby) which reflects the workloads in the two areas. That distribution will change if the workload balance changes.
- 2.4 Further to this, capacity at technical officer level has been increased and a total of 4 no. Countryside Access Technical Officers offer support to both the Definitive Map and Access Maintenance Teams.

3.0 Update on work undertaken by the Definitive Map Team

- 3.1 A significant amount of work has been done over the last 12 months to make the processing of orders more efficient and we now have in place a system that significantly reduces the time required to write orders, consultations and associated reports. This system also builds in greater accuracy and allows us to include some service improvements regarding updating interested parties.
- 3.2 In the last two years, there has been an upsurge in Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) applications and we have seen the caseload double from 98 to 202, though the rate at which applications are submitted has slackened off slightly in recent months. This surge and slackening off may be attributable to the approach of the 2026 deadline and COVID allowing applicants more time to make applications; followed by the abolition of the deadline and the end of COVID restrictions.
- 3.3 In addition, at any one time the DMT has in the region of 45 Public Path Order (Diversion) applications either in progress or otherwise requiring attention.
- 3.4 There has been an emphasis on dealing with order work, in particular ensuring that once an application is started it is taken to a conclusion in the shortest possible time. However, it should be noted that objections to an order extend the time for completion from about 6 -9 months to 2 years.
- 3.5 There have been a significantly higher number of orders attracting objections than has previously been the case; currently approximately 80% of DMMOs are attracting objections. To that end, a number of objected orders have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and NYCC currently has 16 files at PINS (highest in the country) and another 9 currently being worked on pending submission.
- 3.6 This means that the work, and time, required to deal with those orders increases significantly. An objected application requires a report to be written for consideration by the Assistant Director to determine whether or not an order should be made. Before a report is submitted to the Planning Inspector the case officer must submit a report for consideration by the BES Executive Committee to decide what stance the Authority should adopt and then the officer must also prepare a submission followed by a Statement of Case and a Proof of Evidence.
- 3.7 During Covid, PINS stopped holding public inquiries and all matters were dealt with by written representations which require Statement of Cases to be prepared at shorter notice than for a public inquiry and at times concurrently. The result of this is that there

are periods where it is necessary for individual officers to pause starting new order work in order to deal with PINS work. Currently, there are significant delays at PINS and from submission to resolution is taking about 18 months.

- 3.8 On an annual basis Technical Officers deal with consultations on approximately 1700 planning applications, all of which are reviewed by a Definitive Map officer, and 10,000 searches either for property purchases, utility companies or other similar matters. In addition, the service has processed 155 temporary closures of the PROW network (emergencies / planned works) and 25 Section 31 submissions and renewals (also known as Highways Statements and Declarations).
- 3.9 A significant amount of work has been required to liaise with District councils regarding s257 Town and Country Planning Act diversions and we are now engaged with the district councils, providing advice and guidance on diversions associated with development to ensure that public rights of way are protected and catered for in any development.
- 3.10 In the last year, for all types of order, DMT has dealt with:
- 71 Applications received
 - 19 Informal consultations sent out
 - 25 Decision reports written
 - 30 Orders made
 - 29 First formal consultations sent out
 - 18 BES Executive PINS stance reports written
 - 11 referred to PINS
 - 21 Orders Confirmed
 - 6 Orders confirmed by PINS
 - 1 Order not confirmed by PINS
- 3.11 In addition to the above, the DMT have now completed a major project to digitise the Definitive Map. This process involved examining every path individually and comparing the line recorded on our digital mapping alongside copies of the Definitive Map and other sources to ensure that the digital map accurately reflects the Definitive Map. The digital version is published as an interactive map on the NYCC website for public use and is used when we respond to planning applications and search enquiries. An accurate digital version of the Definitive Map is essential in order to allow the DMT to carry out its functions efficiently and with a high degree of accuracy as well as providing a basis for future developments of the Definitive Map.

4.0 Future work programme

- 4.1 The successes achieved in making submissions of projected files to PINS will lead to significant challenges over the next two years in managing workload for both individual officers and the team as a whole. There will be a considerable amount of work to be done to take submissions through either written representations or Inquiries to confirmation or otherwise.
- 4.2 Processing applications of all types will continue to be a core activity for the team; as will an ongoing review of processes and systems to support more efficient and streamlined methods to process orders. This will include, for example, investigating

and implementing systems to scan User Evidence forms directly in to data analysis software to eliminate the time consuming need to create reports manually.

- 4.3 The challenges and opportunities resulting from engagement with the District Council Planning Teams will feed into LGR and officers will be involved in developing systems to ensure that not only are systems safe and legal on 1/4/2023 when the new Unitary Authority is formed but also that there are positive and measurable outcomes going forward.
- 4.4 Although no date has been set for implementation, the Deregulation Act will lead to significant change in the way applications are processed and the DMT will carry out a scoping exercise to determine where the challenges and opportunities lie, identifying changes to processes and procedures which will be required.
- 4.5 Although there is a high level of experience and expertise in the team, a number of professional development activities have been organised during 2022-2023 to build on those skills and to ensure that officers feel confident that they have the skills required to carry out their role.
- 4.6 Implementation of volunteer – led activity to carry out conformity checks for structures included in diversion orders as required by British Standard 5709-2018.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications as this is an advisory report only.

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications as this is an advisory report only.

7.0 Equalities Implications

- 7.1 There are no equality implications as this is an advisory report only.

8.0 Recommendation

- 8.1 It is recommended that North Yorkshire Local Access Forum members take note of the content of the report.

Ian Kelly – Countryside Access Manager

Author of Report: Ron Allan / Penny Noake, Principal Definitive Map Officers.

Background Documents:

None

North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

1 June 2022

Secretary's Update Report

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update members of the Local Access Forum on developments since the last meeting of NYLAF.

2.0 Local Development Plans

- 2.1 One of the key areas of involvement for the Forum is to ensure appropriate engagement in the preparation of Local Development Plans. Set out in the table below is a summary of the current position in relation to each District Council area, and in relation to the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan. The information is taken from the websites of the relevant authorities and as there has been no recent updates to those websites, the information below remains the same as detailed in the last report.

Authority	Status
Craven	<p>In Craven, the Plan was adopted in November 2019 and a provisional date of October 2023 was set for the publication of results of a formal review of the Craven Local Plan, in order to meet the Government's requirement for a review to be completed 5 years after its adoption i.e. by Nov 2024.</p> <p>Most recently a number of consultations have been commenced – see list above.</p>
Hambleton	<p>The Hambleton Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate) for examination on 31 March 2020.</p> <p>The estimated timetable for progressing to the adoption of the Plan was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated examination period March 2020 to February 2021 • Receipt of inspector's report March 2021 • Estimated date of adoption April 2021 <p>The Council's website has no further updates.</p>
Harrogate	<p>The council formally adopted its Local Plan with new settlement policies on 9 December 2020.</p>
Richmondshire	<p>The Local Plan 2018-2035 will be a single document and comprise of a review of the adopted Local Plan Core Strategy 2012-2028 and will provide site allocations, area strategy for Catterick Garrison, land use designations, revised Development Limits for settlements identified in the settlement hierarchy and detailed development policies. It will include an updated and revised Proposals Map.</p> <p>Examination Hearings took place in Spring 2021, followed by a 'Preferred Options' consultation which ran for 8 weeks from 28 May</p>

	<p>2021 until 23 July 2021. The Council is now preparing the Pre-Submission Draft (Regulation 19). This is the final stage of the process before submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State.</p> <p>The Pre-Submission consultation was held in winter 2021.</p>
Ryedale	<p>Ryedale District Council are in the process of reviewing their Local Plan which covers the period 2012- 2027. A two-month 'Call for Sites' consultation concluded on 5 July 2021.</p> <p>Community consultation and consultation with stakeholders began in August 2021. Once they have a group of potential allocations, an options consultation will be undertaken in the spring of 2022 to explore the choices, informed extensively by the initial consultation, evidence base collection and analysis and interactive development of the distribution strategy.</p> <p>Proposed site allocations were published in September 2022.</p>
Scarborough	<p>Scarborough Borough Council formally adopted their Local Plan 2011/32 on 3 July 2017. A consultation on the first stage of the review (the Issues and Options stage) concluded in late 2020 and work continues on the review – see: Review of the Scarborough Borough Local Plan (2011/32) SCARBOROUGH.GOV.UK</p>
Selby	<p>A new Local Development Scheme for the period 2019 to 2023 came into effect on 17 September 2019. The scheme identified which Local Plan documents the Council would progress over the next four years, together with the programme for their preparation, and key consultation milestones.</p> <p>In line with the Scheme, a six-week consultation on the Local Plan Issues and Options ended 6 March 2020, and a six week consultation for the Preferred Options Local Plan 2021 concluded on 12 March 2021.</p> <p>A Local Plan Evidence Base Consultation took place between 3 September 2021 and 15 October 2021.</p>
Minerals and Waste Joint Plan	<p>The Minerals and Waste Joint Plan, prepared by North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Council and North York Moors National Park Authority, was submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination. Elizabeth Ord LLB (Hons) LLM MA DipTUS was appointed as the Planning Inspector to undertake the Examination and public hearings were held between 27th February and 13th April 2018, and 24th and 25th January 2019.</p> <p>Through the Examination several policies and supporting text in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan were identified where a Main Modification was required to address concerns identified by the Inspector or other representations to the Joint Plan, or to reflect changes in evidence or national planning policy and a schedule was prepared for consultation.</p> <p>The Main Modification consultation started on Wednesday 21st July 2021 and closed on Wednesday 15th September 2021.</p>

	<p>All previous documents and evidence reports that underpin the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan, can be viewed online at: www.northyorks.gov.uk/examination.</p> <p>The Examination is a continuous process running from the date of submission through to the receipt of the appointed Planning Inspector's Report. The representations provided relating to the Schedule of Main Modifications consultation will be considered by the Inspector while she is writing her report.</p>
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3.0 Regional Forum

- 3.1 The draft Minutes from the last meeting of the Yorkshire Humber and North Lincolnshire Regional Access Forum held on 9 March 2022 were circulated to Forum members via email by the Chair on 12 April 2022.
- 3.2 The next meeting of the Regional Forum will be held on the 7 September 2022 at Leeds Civic Hall.

4.0 Discretionary Restriction Notices

- 4.1 Since the last Forum meeting ten notifications of discretionary '28 day' restrictions under Section 22 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 have been received, and two notifications of discretionary dog restriction under Section 23(1) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

5.1 Report Recommendations

- 5.1 The Local Access Forum is recommended to note the report:

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
County Hall, NORTHALLERTON

Report Author: Melanie Carr, Secretary to North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

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North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

1 June 2022

District Council and Updates from Sub-Groups

Report of the Secretary

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 An opportunity for LAF members to update the Forum on District Council liaison and other LAF representative project activity since the last meeting.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The LAF operates an agreed list of nominated representatives willing to act as the first point of liaison with the constituent District Councils in relation to planning and other relevant matters. Individual LAF members are also nominated from time to time to take a lead on specific projects that the LAF has an interest in or in representing the LAF on other partnership bodies. Both are represented in the table below:

Name	Representation
Will Scarlett	Craven District
Rachel Connelly	Hambleton District Richmondshire District A1
Roma Haigh	Ryedale District A19
Paul Sherwood	Regional Access Forum A66
County Councillor David Jeffels	Scarborough District Regional Access Forum
Dick Brew	NYCC Countryside Access Service User Group
David Lepper	Protected Landscapes
Vacant	2026 Harrogate District

- 2.2 This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Forum to be updated on activity since the previous meeting.

3.0 District Council Liaison

3.1 The following updates have been provided by Rachel Connolly:

A1 upgrade: promises made 3 years ago to rectify problems and safety issues still not addressed by either NYCC or National Highways (previously Highways England). Very disappointing due to a lack of drive and sense of obligation from both parties. Communication a struggle and no-one accountable.

Catterick Garrison: The Masterplan envisaged for this summer has been shelved as the MOD is not going to expand the garrison as expected so development is being included in the Richmond Plan rather than as a separate entity. Richmond's Local Plan, to which we responded to the draft revision last year, will be circulated for final comment shortly and is likely to given weight by next spring which may be before the final Local Plan is adopted. At the moment, Richmond is using a plan 10 years old which does not match the guidance of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021) in some respects, particularly that of access.

Hambleton are working a hybrid system and proving helpful and efficient. Few referrals at the moment as all applications in the Tees Valley catchment area are on hold due to serious nitrate run-off levels. A general problem, they suggest, is a lack of joined up thinking between their Council and NYCC where projects are multi-interfaced. A good example of this is the failure to implement a cycling link between Leeming/Aiskew/Bedale to serve the massive (700) or so houses springing up in this rapidly developing area. The ground is there, the plans by Sustrans were there, the funding is there, Hambleton want it, Bedale would like it, but NYCC have not progressed it. No one can say why not or who is responsible. Frustrating and doesn't comply with LTP4, government advice to seize the opportunities for sustainable travel and planning policy. I have raised the lack of cycling parking in the centre of Northallerton and the fact that North Northallerton 'village' (1000 houses) was planned to provide a cycling facility on its pavements, but there are no indications for this provision.

Richmond: consultation continues to stem from applications flagged up for me to check or from the weekly list of applications circulated to all consultees. However, staff are working from home; no phone calls are taken, messages that promise to call back in 5 working days don't happen. Emails sometimes elicit a reply. Unsatisfactory.

In the case of Richmond in particular, and possibly in NYCC, I get the feeling that their requirement as a sec 94(4) body to give 'due regard' to Forum advice is not taken seriously, and I quote from The Essential Guide to the Public Sector Equality Duty. *Having due regard is not a matter of box ticking. The duty must be exercised in substance, with rigour and with an open mind in such a way that it influences the final decision.* This means that when that a sec 94 body does not take our advice, they should be prepared to justify their decision, and when seemingly perverse decisions are taken, the Forum should be robust in exercising this request for feedback. Our remit requires us to be proactive as well as constructive, inclusive etc.

3.2 In regard to the recently received invitation for a member of NYLAF to take part in a forthcoming North Yorkshire Rural Task Force external challenge session, Will Scarlett has offered to participate on the Forum's behalf.

4.0 Other Updates

4.1 Nominated representatives are invited to report verbally on any other activity undertaken since the last meeting.

5.0 Recommendation

5.1 That members:

- i) Note the updates;
- ii) Agree any further actions required
- iii) Agree to Will Scarlett to represent NYLAF at the North Yorkshire Rural Task Force external challenge session

BARRY KHAN

Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall

NORTHALLERTON

Report Author: Melanie Carr, Secretary to North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

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North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

1 June 2022

Forward Plan Report

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To consider, develop and adopt a Forward Plan of items of business for future meetings.

2.0 Background

2.1 The 'Guidance on Local Access Forums in England' published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) strongly recommends that forums prepare a forward work programme which sets out the forum's priorities and special areas of interest.

2.2 This can play an important role in helping the forum to:

- Ensure a focus on issues which are the most relevant for the area
- Clarify the issues on which the County Council or other section 94(4) bodies would benefit from receiving advice
- Timetable when specific matters are likely to be considered
- Inform the public about the forum's work
- Identify training needs
- Review effectiveness and prepare an annual report.

3.0 Forward Plan

3.1 The Forward Plan is attached at Appendix A, which lists the agreed meeting dates for the coming municipal year.

3.2 The Forum meets three times a calendar year but may choose to agree further meeting dates (based on need), and may set up sub-groups to progress specific pieces of work outside of the formal meetings.

3.3 Meeting dates for the coming municipal year are:

28 September 2022

25 January 2023

24 May 2023

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 Forum members are asked to note the dates of future meeting in 2022/23 and agree the work programme for those meetings, taking into account the discussions and suggestions made at this meeting.

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

Report Author: Melanie Carr, Secretary to North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Forward Plan 2021/22

Date of Meeting	
Standing items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes • Matters Arising • Public Questions and Statements • Consultations • Secretary's Update Report • District Council Liaison Updates • Forward Plan
26 January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance of Natural England Representative - Review of new Land Management Scheme • Active Travel Update • UUR Draft Position Statement
1 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance of a Network Rail Representative • An update on the Coast to Coast National Trail from Natural England • A presentation from National Highways on their proposed A19 Safety Improvements; • An update on the Definitive Map team
28 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
25 January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
24 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Suggested Future Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights of Way Improvement Plan • In-depth discussion on Reinstatement • Draft NYCC Active Travel Strategy • ELMS Scheme Update