

Public Document Pack

NOTE – At the commencement of the meeting there will be a public forum for up to 15 minutes which will offer members of the public the opportunity to make statements or ask questions.



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

13 July 2015

Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forum Meeting

A meeting of the Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forum will be held on **Tuesday, 21 July 2015 at 6.00 pm** in **Huttoft Village Hall, Sutton Road, Huttoft, near Alford, Lincs LN13 9RG** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tony McArdle', written over a horizontal line.

Tony McArdle
Chief Executive

Membership of the Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forum

Chris Padley, (Users of Local Rights of Way) (Chairman)
Councillor Denis Colin Hoyes MBE, (Lincolnshire County Council)
Councillor Daniel McNally, (Lincolnshire County Council)
Iain Colquhoun, (North East Lincolnshire Council)
Sandra Harrison, (Landowners)
Ray Shipley, (Landowners)
Dr Chris Allison, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Sheila Brookes, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Deborah North, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Colin Smith, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Richard Graham, (Other Interests)
Peter Skipworth, (Other Interests)
3 Vacancies (Land Owners)
3 Vacancies (Other Interests)

**MID-LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM AGENDA
TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2015**

Item	Title	Report Reference
1	Election of Chairman	
2	Election of Vice-Chairman	
3	Apologies for Absence	
4	Minutes of the previous meeting of the Mid Lincolnshire Local Access Forum held on 28 April 2015	(Pages 7 - 14)
5	Actions Arising from the previous meeting (if not already on the agenda)	
5a	De-Regulation Bill (Minute 63(b))	(Verbal Report)
6	Alison Healey - Retiring Member and Welcome to New Member - Deborah North	(Verbal Report)
7	Past Chairman's Report <i>(Chris Padley to report)</i>	(Verbal Report)
8	Joint Annual Report 2014/15 <i>(A report by Andrew Savage, Senior Countryside Access Officer, in connection with the work of the Forum during the last year)</i>	(Pages 15 - 28)
9	Proposal for Future Permissive Access in Stewardship Schemes - Consultation <i>(A copy of the draft report and consultation documents in connection with the above was emailed to the Forum with a covering note from Chris Padley on 22 June 2015. You were requested to bring any comments on the documents to this meeting. For information, the documentation has been emailed to you again)</i>	(Verbal Report)
10	Ordnance Survey - The Recording of "Routes with Other Public Access" (ORPA) <i>(Chris Padley has requested a definition of this area and a paper submitted by Chris Miller, Countryside Access and Definitive Map Manager, provides this information)</i>	(To Follow)

- 11 Big Pathwatch on 13 July 2015 - Organised by the Ramblers**
(The Big Pathwatch is an initiative aimed at motivating communities to survey the rights of way network—footpaths, bridleways and byways—in England and Wales, and then to report their findings, both good and bad, via the Ramblers purpose-built app or our website. Once the survey closes later in the year, it is the aim to produce the first comprehensive nationwide analysis of the condition of our paths. The Ramblers are keen to hear the views of the Forum in connection with the following:-
- *Why your community values the path network and how you use it?*
 - *What impact cuts to path budgets have had on your community?*
 - *Examples of Councils managing the path network cost effectively?)*
- (Verbal Report)
- 12 Haugh Rights of Way - Further Developments**
(Item raised by Pete Skipworth but a general enquiry about the clearance of Rights of Way)
- (Verbal Report)
- 13 Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park Access and Recreation Group Update**
(Report by Richard Graham in connection with the latest situation)
- (Pages 29 - 30)
- 14 Obstruction of Route from Saltfleet Paradise (Blackbridge) to Seaview Access**
(Sandra Harrison has requested that the Forum gives consideration to the lack of consultation by the Environment Agency to the obstruction of a well known route from Saltfleet Paradise (Blackbridge) along the foot of the Seaside dunes through to Seaview access. In Sandra Harrison's absence Councillor Danny McNally will speak on this item)
- (Verbal Report)
- 15 Lincolnshire County Council Countryside Access and Rights of Way Improvement Plan - Update**
(A report by Andrew Savage, Senior Countryside Access Officer, which provides an update of the plan)
- (Pages 31 - 58)
- 16 North East Lincolnshire Countryside Access and Rights of Way Improvement Plan**
(A report by Nicola Hardy, Public Rights of Way Mapping Officer, which provides an update of the Plan)
- (Pages 59 - 60)
- 17 Lincolnshire County Council Progress of Definitive Map Modification Orders Work**
(A report by Chris Miller, Countryside Access and Definitive Map Manager, which provides an update of the Orders)
- (To Follow)
- 18 North East Lincolnshire Progress of Definitive Map Modification Orders**
(A report by Nicola Hardy, Public Rights of Way Mapping Officer, which provides an update of the Orders)
- (Pages 61 - 62)

- 19 Lincolnshire County Council Progress of Public Path Orders**
(A report by Chris Miller, Countryside Access and Definitive Map Manager, which provides an update of the Orders) (To Follow)
- 20 North East Lincolnshire Progress of Public Path Orders**
(A report by Nicola Hardy, Public Rights of Way Mapping Officer, which provides an update of the Orders) (Pages 63 - 64)
- 21 Date and Time of the Next Meeting**
(The next meeting of the Forum should coincide with the date and time of the next meeting of the South Lincolnshire Local Access Forum arranged for 21 October 2015. It is suggested that the next meeting of this Forum is arranged for 2.00pm on Tuesday 20 October 2015. Members will need to consider a venue)

Democratic Services Officer Contact Details

Name: **Steve Blagg**
Direct Dial **01522 553788**
E Mail Address steve.blagg@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Please Note: for more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details set out above.

All papers for council meetings are available on:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords

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Agenda Item 4



MID-LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM 28 APRIL 2015

PRESENT: CHRIS PADLEY (CHAIRMAN)

Representing Lincolnshire County Council: Councillors D C Hoyes MBE and D McNally

Representing North East Lincolnshire Council: Councillor Iain Colquhoun

Representing Independent Members: Dr Chris Allison, Sheila Brookes, Colin Smith, Richard Graham and Peter Skipworth

Officers: Steve Blagg (Democratic Services Officer), Nicola Hardy (Public Rights of Way Mapping Officer), Chris Miller (Countryside Access Manager), Andrew Savage (Senior Countryside Access Officer) and Christopher Marsh (Senior Highways Officer (Countryside))

51 QUESTION FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public, representing the British Horse Society and British Horse Carriage Driving Society, stated that a lot of resources had been invested by various agencies to develop the Lindsey Trail. However, with effect from 2026 some routes forming the Trail would not appear on the Definitive Map and asked for the County Council's views on this situation.

Officers stated that they were aware of this situation but were awaiting the implementation of the Deregulation Bill. They had records of routes which required further work on them before they were included on the Definitive Map and as long as it could be shown that the local authority was examining these routes then they would not disappear after 2026, the final date for inclusion of all historic routes in existence before 1949 on the Definitive Map.

Officers stated that the Lindsey Trail was a well promoted route and that there might be a need to alter the Definitive Map to show Restricted Byways. They were expecting a lot similar enquiries from across the county on this issue. Officers referred to the joint meeting with South Lincolnshire Local Access Forum in connection with Lost Ways and that they would discuss the use of volunteers to examine this matter in the future.

The Forum agreed to consider how to take this matter forward at its next meeting and in the meantime officers agreed to provide a list of these affected routes to the Forum.

MID-LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
28 APRIL 2015

52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Sandra Harrison, Alison Healey and Ray Shipley.

53 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE MID-LINCS LOCAL ACCESS FORUM HELD ON 22 JANUARY 2015

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Mid Lincolnshire Local Access Forum held on 22 January 2015, be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

54 ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING (IF NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)

54a Lincolnshire County Council's Budget and its effects on Rights of Way

Following an enquiry from the Forum officers stated that the outcome of the service review of Rights of Way would be known in June/July 2015 and that the service had been tasked with finding savings of 20% in its budget.

54b Footpaths at Haugh - Update (see minute 42 of the previous meeting of the Forum)

Following concerns raised by Pete Skipworth about Rights of Way access to and from the village of Haugh and particularly to its historic church, officers reported on the outcome of a site visit to the area.

Officers explained, with the use of a map, the current Rights of Way in the area adding that the main problems of access were in Haugh.

Comments made by the Forum included:-

1. Similar problems existed in the county as existed at Haugh.
2. The role of the Local Access Forum in identifying locations and providing advice to the local authority to solve these blockages required clarification.
3. Sign posts in the vicinity of Haugh Church had been removed.
4. The planning procedure for dealing with obstructions on a footpath was explained.
5. It was noted that there was a national problem of where resources were invested when large amounts of money could be saved in the NHS budget by encouraging more people to walk.
6. There was only one public access to the historic Church at Haugh.

Officers' responses included:-

1. The local authority had limited resources to improve footpaths in the Haugh area.
2. Improvement to access in Haugh was low limited financial resources.

3. The local authority did have a responsibility to maintain current footpaths but resources for new footpaths would only be allocated if certain criteria were met.
4. The removal of the sign posts would be investigated.
3. The public could take action against the local authority if a footpath was not maintained.

The Forum agreed that the Chairman, in consultation with the Vice-Chairman and the Secretary, should prepare a draft letter for consideration by the Forum at its next meeting, to be sent to the local authority, to urge that consideration should be given to the removal of blockages which would improve the Rights of Way network. It was also agreed that the Forum needed to consider its role in responding and giving advice to the local authority on matters generally affecting the Rights of Way network.

RESOLVED

(a) That the Chairman, in consultation with the Vice-Chairman and the Secretary, prepare a letter for consideration at the next meeting, to urge the local authority to give consideration to the removal of blockages to improve Rights of Way access.

(b) That the Forum considers how to respond to the local authorities in connection with the maintenance of the Rights of Way network.

55 SUSTRANS FEASIBILITY STUDY ON COASTAL CYCLE ROUTE

The Forum enquired about the latest situation in connection with the feasibility being undertaken by Sustrans on the provision of a coastal cycle route on the east coast.

Officers stated that the County Council's Natural Environment Team had been examining the feasibility of providing a linear cycle route along the east coast. The Forum was already aware that the County Council was examining the provision of a footpath along the east coast which was part of a national coastal route. The County Council was currently examining the Sustrans feasibility report in connection with a proposed cycle route on the east coast.

Following a comment from the Forum, officers agreed to ask the County Council's Natural Environment Team to keep the Forum updated on progress of the provision of a cycle route on the east coast and would also examine if the Forums could make any contribution to the examination.

The Forum noted that the east coast was a holiday area and the provision of cycling routes especially for families was an attractive option.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and that officers ask the County Council's Natural Environment Team to keep the Forum updated on progress of the provision of a cycle route on the east coast and to examine if the Forums can make a contribution to any study being undertaken.

**MID-LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
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56 FUTURE STORAGE AND ACCESS OF GREEN LANE PROJECT FILES

The Forum enquired about the future storage and access of Green Lane project files. The Forum noted that a study had been undertaken a few years ago in connection with the existence of Green Lanes and the final report was nearing completion until resources for its continued progress were curtailed due to reductions in public expenditure. The information produced by the study contained valuable information about flora and fauna on Green Lanes. The Forum agreed that it would be good if the information provided by the study was available for viewing on-line.

Officers stated that the files relating to the Green Lane study in Lincolnshire were held by the County Council and were available for viewing by the public. Officers stated that they would enquire with Archives about the storage of the files although it would be necessary to index the files before they were archived.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and that, once office moves had taken place, officers enquire with Archives about the storage of the Green Lane files and making the files available for viewing on-line.

57 THE FUTURE OF LEVEL CROSSINGS OVER RAILWAYS

Chris Padley stated that he had attended the Public Inquiry in connection with the future of the Right of Way which crossed the railway line at Ballast Hole, Lincoln. He stated that Network Rail was carrying out a long term programme of removing footpaths which crossed railway lines to improve rail safety and efficiency. He stated that in comparison with to the positive approach taken by Network Rail in the past to proposed closures of these accesses the response from them at this Public Inquiry was different because they had employed a Barrister to present their case and this had not gone down very well with the public.

Officers stated that this issue had been raised at a national level by the County Council as the county had many Rights of Way which crossed railway lines. The Council had contact details of who to speak to at Network Rail to discuss any proposed closure of a Right of Way. Officers stated that Network Rail wished to improve the safety and efficiency of running the railways and was examining all Rights of Way access. Network Rail was using the East Midlands as a trial area and that Network Rail's attempt to avoid consulting local authorities about proposed closures of Rights of Way had been refused by the Secretary of State who had agreed that Local Access Forums must also be consulted.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

58 MONITOR OF ENGAGEMENT WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
(MENE) SURVEY

Officers gave an explanation of the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) statistics which gave details of the health and economic benefits, of the public's involvement in the natural environment. The statistics were obtained from a quarterly survey conducted by MORI and it was possible breakdown the statistics on a county by county basis which the County Council used when producing its Rights of Way Improvement Plan report.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

59 HORSE RIDING ROUTE MAPS FOR LOCAL ACCESS FORUMS

The views of the Forum were sought on which type of map they preferred to be used in connection with proposals by the Council to update some of the riding routes in the British Horse Society Lincolnshire on Horseback book. Examples of maps were given in the report.

Officers stated that they had been approached by the public to map out new bridle trails and that there was a wish to include this information in the Rights of Way Improvement Plans. A member of the public who used to live in Devon but now lived in the Wolds wished to replicate similar maps produced for Devon for Lincolnshire but this would be in electronic format in this county.

Officers stated that they had received an email from Alison Healey who had given her apologies for this meeting stating that as a horse rider she preferred the map detailed on page 34 of the report.

The Forum stated that they did not have a clear view on this matter but noted that horse riding was popular in the county, that horse riders preferred circular routes and that a linear scale and date should be added to any preferred map. The offer by a member of the public to undertake this task was welcomed. Officers stated that they had spoken to other areas about this matter and Chris Miller and Nicola Hardy were prepared to give a steer to the volunteer.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

60 NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS AND RIGHTS
OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Forum received a report from North East Lincolnshire Council in connection with the latest situation of their Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

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Officers stated that with regard to Public Footpath 21 Stallingborough it had been necessary to go back to the Committee following erroneous advice from the consultant appointed to the case and it had been necessary to abandon the Orders to divert the footpath. An alternative route was now being examined.

With regard to Bridleway 91 (Ashby Cum Fenby) the Secretary of State had confirmed the Diversion Order. Officers stated that the necessary action was being taken to correct an error in the grid references in the Order and the necessary work had had to be delayed until the Order had been confirmed.

With regard to Footpath 72, officers stated that the Secretary of State had not confirmed the Order and that the Council was examining its options. The footpath was still a priority and work was on-going with the surveyor in connection with compensation payments to affected landowners.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

61 LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS AND RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN - UPDATE

The Forum received a report from Lincolnshire County Council in connection with the progress made in the implementation of the Lincolnshire Countryside Access and Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Officers stated that there was a budget in this financial year to improve Rights of Way in the urban fringe and countryside heritage and that these were currently being examined for implementation during the Summer of 2015.

Officers agreed with the comments made by the Forum in connection with the use of Local Transport Plan to support walking initiatives and added that Public Health supported the work of Local Accesses Forums in promoting and funding walking through the health initiative.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

62 NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE PROGRESS OF DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDERS FROM OCTOBER 2006-17 APRIL 2015

The Committee received a report from North East Lincolnshire Council in connection with the progress of Definitive Map Modification Orders from October 2006 to 17 April 2015.

Officers stated that with regard to Definitive Map Modification Order 6 (New Clew Sidings) an Order had been made following an appeal by the applicant against the Council's decision not to progress this application, in line with the wishes of the

Inspector to uphold that appeal in part. Objections were received to that Order, one of which being from Network Rail, who stated that the claimed 20 years period of usage had in fact been interrupted by the replacement of the pedestrian bridge known locally as Fuller Street bridge, which the Council had included in the proposed route. In that period, there was a time when there was no pedestrian crossing facility in between the removal of the original bridge and the construction of the bridge that was there today. Users would therefore have had to trespass against the Rail Board. Following legal advice received, the Council had since resolved to make a new Order to exclude Fuller Street bridge and instead commence the claimed route from an existing pedestrian crossing access point at Suggitts Lane further down the track to make the Order acceptable to Network Rail, thereby resolving their objection.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

63 LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PROGRESS OF DEFINITIVE MAP
MODIFICATION ORDERS WORK FROM OCTOBER 2006 - 17 APRIL
2015

The Forum received a report from Lincolnshire County Council in connection with progress of Definitive Map Modification Orders work from October 2006 – 17 April 2015.

Officers stated that there was a need to examine the effects of the De-Regulation Act on the backlog of Definitive Map cases and gave an example of how the process would work under the new Act. The Forum noted that if an alternative footpath route was suggested then it might involve walkers having to walk further but accepted that finding an alternative route would be difficult.

RESOLVED

(a) That the report be noted.

(b) That officers report to a future meeting on the effects of the De-Regulation Act.

64 NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE PROGRESS OF PUBLIC PATH ORDERS

The Committee received a report from North East Lincolnshire Council in connection with progress of Public Path Orders.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**MID-LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
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65 LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PROGRESS OF PUBLIC PATH
ORDERS

The Committee received a report from Lincolnshire County Council in connection with progress of Public Path Orders.

Officers stated that in connection with the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park the County Council had resources to employ experts to examine Rights of Way in the Park with a view to improving public access.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

66 SEAN KENT - GROUP MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Sean Kent, Group Manager, Environmental Services, was introduced to the Forum and explained his role as having overall management responsibility for countryside access. His main aim was to raise the profile of Public Rights of Way at a time of financial constraint.

67 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Forum was arranged for 6.00pm on Tuesday 21 July 2015, at Huttoft Village Hall, Huttoft.

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm

Mid Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local (Countryside) Access Forums Joint Annual Report 2014/ 15



Chairman's Introduction

Mid Lincolnshire Local Access Forum

The issues facing LAFs seem to remain largely the same from year to year, but the relative size and urgency of each change. The many errors, anomalies, and omissions of rights of way from the definitive rights of way map is one that grows more urgent because of the 2026 so-called "cut off" date. Unfortunately, at the same time the national political support for improving the network has steadily declined. In our LAF concern over this is especially strong over the shortage of bridleways, or roads suitable for horse riding, and the general lack of connectivity caused by "missing links" and anomalous gaps.

One area where we seem to be seeing a gradual thawing of political resistance is the idea that network changes should be made to improve it for users rather than just the traditional convenience of land owners. The concept that authorities not only can, but should, make road crossing safer, if necessary by forcing diversions on unreasonable land owners, has at last taken root, and we hope may gain wider acceptance. There is a similar early slow movement towards the idea of closing some of the more absurd and anomalous missing links by diversions and creation.

With these slow changes it is particularly irksome that we are all now caught in across the board restraints on local government budgets. This is ironic because improvement to the facilities for walking and cycling reduces car use and the need for new roads, and also reduces health service expenditure far more than the cost. Investing to encourage walking, both as exercise and transport is very good value in public expenditure. We must to do more to get this message to government.

Chris Padley

Chairman

Mid Lincolnshire

Local (Countryside) Access Forum

South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum

Welcome to the Joint Annual Report of the Lincolnshire Local Access Forums for 2014/15.

It has been a very interesting year and I believe that we have made a great deal of progress despite a very challenging financial situation. We are extremely fortunate in having an enthusiastic forum, and as chair of the forum I would like to take this opportunity to thank members and officers for their support during the past year.

Members of the forum were saddened to hear of the deaths of two of our members during the year. Brian Montgomery, who was the first chairman of the South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum, passed away in August and Alan Gibbon who had been a LAF member for three years pass away in December. Both Brian and Alan contributed a great deal to the work of the forum and will be sadly missed.

The forum has continued to examine a wide range of issues over the last twelve months from familiar areas of interest such as Rights of Way Improvement Plans to emerging issues such as public rights of way affected by level crossings.

I would also like to thank the Disability sub group for it's continued efforts outside of full forum meetings. During the last twelve months the group has published an additional four access for all leaflets for routes at Gibraltar Point, Skegness, Boston and Lincoln. In the coming year the group are planning to embark on a diverse range of tasks including the publication of additional access for all leaflets, the provision of walk leader training and the wider promotion of disabled access in Lincolnshire and Rutland.

The coming year will hold many challenges and a great deal of creative thinking will be needed in a rapidly changing financial environment.

County Councillor Ray Wootten

Chairman

South Lincolnshire and Rutland
Local (Countryside) Access Forum

Membership of Local Access Forums

Each LAF consists of up to 18 members representing a wide range of interests, including rights of way users, land managers and farmers, rural business, health, heritage, nature conservation, tourism, transport, disability groups and minority groups.

Members are appointed for up to three years and the appointing authorities are required to maintain a balance of interests on each forum.

A list of members is shown in the membership section of the Annual Report.

Changes in membership and appointments

-Mid Lincs Forum

Irene Unsworth resigned from the forum at the end of her appointment.

-South Lincs Forum

Members of the forum were saddened to hear of the deaths of Brian Montgomery in August and Alan Gibbon in December. Dr Rebecca Johnson was appointed to the forum in September 2014.

-Chair Appointments

Chris Padley was re-elected as Chair of the Mid Lincs Forum and Dr. Christopher Allison was elected as the Vice-Chair at the July Annual General Meeting. County Councillor Ray Wooten was elected as Chair of the South Lincs Forum and John Williams elected as the Vice-Chair.

Review of meetings and discussions of the past year

Meeting Details

Both forums held 4 full meetings during the reporting period. Meetings have been held at the following venues:

Mid Lincs LAF	South Lincs and Rutland LAF
15 April 2014 – Lincoln	16 April 2014 – Oakham
22 July 2014 - Huttoft	9 July 2014 – Lincoln
28 October 2014 - Waltham	15 October 2014 - Grantham
22 January 2015 – Wragby	14 January 2015 – Stamford

The average attendance rate for the Mid Lincs LAF during the reporting period was 58% and the South Lincs and Rutland LAF was 68%.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and observe local access forum meetings and members of the public and other interested parties who would like to raise items for consideration by the forums may do so by contacting the Secretary.

Agendas and minutes can be viewed on Lincolnshire County Council's website by searching the Committee Records System at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/laf

Rights of Way Improvement Plans (RoWIP)

Lincolnshire County Council

Both forums have continued to receive updates on the implementation of the first Lincolnshire RoWIP. Improvement works have again concentrated on promoted routes, routes in popular areas of the county and those in the vicinity of villages and towns.

During the reporting period RoWIP implementation has included

- the creation of one public footpath
- surface improvements on 15 routes
- extensive access improvements on Leadenham Public Footpath No. 1
- the publication of two bus walk leaflets
- the publication of two walk leaflets in the Coastal Country Park
- the publication of one Lincolnshire Walk leaflet for Saltfleet

The pre-draft of the Second Lincolnshire RoWIP was presented to both forums at the April meetings. The second ROWIP will have an increased emphasis on community involvement and partnership working as a result of the County Council's decreased capability to deliver the plan on its own.

Three broad themes have emerged for the future development of the Lincolnshire PRow network.

Theme 1 – Network Improvements

Theme 2 – Improved Customer Service

Theme 3 – Social Inclusion

The process of developing the Second RoWIP has been influenced by a number of factors including significant changes in national policy, County Council priorities and the potential for a further reduction in funding in the coming years. It is envisaged that the draft document will be published in the coming financial year.

North East Lincolnshire Council

The Mid Lincs LAF has continued to receive updates on the implementation of the North East Lincs RoWIP. Particular focus has once again been given to addressing those routes that intersect with busy trafficked roads within the Borough. In this respect, working in partnership with the Casualty Reduction Officer for Humberside Police, a legal order has been made to divert a section of a key promoted route (Ashby Cum Fenby BW91), forming part of the Wanderlust Way, to provide a safer crossing point on the A18 Barton Street. In addition, officers have also been working to reinstate Waltham FP72.

Works are continuing towards the production of a Consolidated Definitive Map for North East Lincolnshire, which would provide a much needed and more relevant Map and Statement to replace the current version with a relevant date of 1953.

In addition, officers have produced a draft protocol regarding 'Gaps, Gates and Stiles', which is currently awaiting approval. This protocol will then provide formal guidance for landowners and their tenants as to how to apply for permission to install/replace/change path furniture.

Rutland County Council

A timetable showing the stages in preparing the second Rutland ROWIP was presented to the forum at the January meeting, but until it [the second plan] is published delivery against the objectives in the first ROWIP will continue to be reported.

Over the past year work in Rutland has been focused around our core actions of 'Improving standards of maintenance across the network' (Core Action 1) and 'Reducing the number of physical barriers on the network' (Core Action 3). A review of the annual mowing programme has now been completed and some significant savings are now anticipated for 2015/16. We invested heavily, spending almost 30% of the annual budget, on improvements to the surface and drainage of footpaths and bridleways across the county whilst continuing to fund the replacement of existing (lawful) stiles with gates. Requests for the creation of new routes and projects requiring significant capital investment must be considered against Highways schemes through the County Councils prioritisation system; at the time of writing two requests for new bridleways are seeking approval by cabinet.

Delivery of the second Rutland ROWIP in accordance with the timetable presented previously no longer appears possible. The analysis of user needs through a review of existing data sources relevant to countryside access and rights of way was delayed whilst errors in the MENE (Monitoring Engagement with the Natural Environment) data were raised with Natural England (NE) and, more significantly, the proposed condition survey is now being undertaken in-house in order to reduce costs. Despite this the authority will meet its obligations under section 60(30) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, which requires that local authorities review their plans at intervals not exceeding 10 years in length, and endeavour keep the forum apprised of its progress towards this objective.

Access for the Disabled

The Disability sub group has continued working on the development of a series of access for all leaflets aimed at disabled users and families with pushchairs.

The sub group has produced an additional four leaflets during the reporting period at;

- Gibraltar Point, Skegness
- Grand and North Parades, Skegness
- Westgate Woods, Boston
- Hartsholme Country Park, Lincoln

Each leaflet provides detailed route information describing path surfaces, path gradients and cross-slopes, as well as the location of path infrastructure, parking and on site facilities.

The group has also become increasingly involved in the promotion of disabled access in Lincolnshire. The Willingham Woods access for all route was featured in the summer 2014 edition of County News magazine, Gordon Norris and John Law attended the 'Give it Some Buzz' Health and Fitness Show in Spalding and the group has produced a slide show for use in doctors surgeries to promote countryside access opportunities in the county.

In the coming year the group are planning to undertake a diverse range of tasks including;

- The publication of four additional access for all leaflets,
- Providing dementia walk leader training
- Providing countryside for all training
- The production and installation of interpretive panels.

Public Rights of Way and Level Crossings

Both forums have shown an increasing interest in the issue of public rights of way affected by level crossings.

Network Rail manages in the region of 9000 level crossings across the country. Approximately 1,500 level crossings are on public vehicular roads and the rest are in locations where public footpaths, bridleways and private roads and tracks cross the railway. The RoWIP rail crossing audit identified over 93 locations in Lincolnshire where public rights of way cross the rail network. Some of these are provided for by grade separated crossings such as a bridge or underpass, however, the majority are at level crossings with no control measures other than a stile/gate at the line side and infill boarding between rails to avoid trip hazards.

The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) policy on level crossings is to seek to reduce risk through a variety of means and, where practicable, reduce risk as far as possible through the elimination of level crossings in favour of bridges, underpasses or diversions. Where elimination is not possible, the ORR aims to ensure that Network Rail and other duty holders introduce measures to reduce risk so far as is reasonably practicable. During the course of last 12 months Network Rail has worked on a number of schemes in Lincolnshire aimed at improving the safety of public rights of way affected by level crossings

Members of the South Lincolnshire and Rutland LAF expressed concern that some public paths have been unofficially closed by Network Rail and are keen to establish dialogue on this issue. The forum believes that they should be an initial point of contact on any rail crossing proposals effecting public rights of way in Lincolnshire and Rutland. Rail crossings and public rights of way is now a standard item on the South Lincolnshire and Rutland LAF agenda.

The Mid Lincolnshire Local Access Forum discussed the proposed closure of Lincoln Public Footpath No. 41 at Ballast Hole crossing(*) and the Chairman attended the public inquiry on behalf of the forum.

(*)The public path order to extinguish Lincoln Public Footpath No. 41 was confirmed on the 18 May 2015.

Other Topics Discussed

- The future of the permissive path network
- South Lincolnshire Walking Festival
- Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park
- The Department for Transport's Cycle Delivery Plan
- The Future of Public Rights of Way Delivery in Lincolnshire
- The East Midlands LAF Chairs meeting
- Definitive Map Modification Order and Public Path Order Updates
- Travel4Rutland Cycle Route Infrastructure

Sub Groups

- County Farms
- Access for the Disabled
- Lost Ways

Presentations

The Mid Lincs LAF received one presentation during the reporting period;

- Phil Garner, Public Health, Lincolnshire County Council – The role of public health.

The South Lincs and Rutland LAF did not receive any presentations during the reporting period;

Forum Expenditure

Mid Lincs Forum

Democratic Services support	£1,200.00
Member travel expenses	£ 276.90
Total	£1,476.90

South Lincs and Rutland Forum

Democratic Services support	£1,200.00
Member travel expenses	£1,720.95
Sub Total	£2,920.95
Total	£4,397.85

Membership

Mid Lincolnshire Local (Countryside) Access Forum		
Name	Area of Interest	End Date of Appointment
Sheila Brookes	Carriage driving	July 2015
Alison Healey	Land Management/ Horse riding, Health	July 2015
Christopher Padley	Walking, Cycling	July 2017
Raymond Shipley	Conservation/ Game keeping	July 2016
Peter Skipworth	Walking, Conservation, Tourism	July 2017
Irene Unsworth (1)	Farming, Rural Business	July 2014
Dr. Christopher Allison	Walking	July 2015
Colin Smith	Walking, Health Walking	July 2017
Richard Graham	Health Walking, Walking	July 2015
Sandra Harrison	Horse riding	Sept 2016
Councillor IB Colquhoun	Local Authority Representative	n/a
Councillor D. C. Hoyes	Local Authority Representative	n/a
Councillor D. McNally	Local Authority Representative	n/a

(1) Irene Unsworth resigned from the forum at the end of her appointment.

South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local (Countryside) Access Forum		
Name	Area of Interest	End Date of Appointment
Bryan Bowles	Farming / Land Management	July 2015
Rosemary Harris	Landowner, Local History	July 2016
Barbara Smitheringale	Walking, tourism	July 2015
Audrey Morley	Farming, Horse Riding	July 2015
William Cross	Land Management	July 2017
Alec Hill	Recreational Motoring	July 2016
Gordon Norris	Walking, Access for people with disabilities	July 2015
Alan Gibbon (3)	Walking	July 2014
John Williams	Walking	July 2015
John Law	Other Interests	July 2017
Ian Cox	Countryside Management	July 2015
Paul Marshall	Disabled Access	August 2016
Dr. Rebecca Johnson (2)	Other Interests	September 2017
Councillor B. Montgomery (1)	Local Authority Representative	n/a
Councillor R. Wootten	Local Authority Representative	n/a
Councillor D. Brailsford	Local Authority Representative	n/a

- (1) Brian Montgomery passed away August 2014
(2) Dr Rebecca Johnson joined the forum in September 2014
(3) Alan Gibbon passed away in December 2014

Contacts

Mid Lincolnshire Local (Countryside) Access Forum

Secretary Steve Blagg
Democratic Services Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
County Offices
Lincoln
LN1 1YQ
01522 553788
E-mail: steve.blagg@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Advisors

Andy Savage
Senior Countryside Access Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
Communities
City Hall
Lincoln
LN1 1DN
01522 782070
Email: countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Nicola Hardy
Public Rights of Way
Mapping Officer
North East Lincs Council
Highways and Transport
Origin One
1 Origin Way
Genesis Way
Europarc
Grimsby
DN37 9TZ
01472 324726
Email: nicola.hardy@nelincs.gov.uk

South Lincolnshire & Rutland Local (Countryside) Access Forum

Secretary Andrea Brown
Democratic Services Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
County Offices
Lincoln
LN1 1YQ
01522 553787
E-mail: andrea.brown@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Advisors

Andy Savage
Senior Countryside Access Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
Communities
City Hall
Lincoln
LN1 1DN
01522 782070
Email: countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Stuart Crook
Rights of Way Officer
Rutland County Council
Transport Strategy
Catmose
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6HP
01572 758260
Email: scrook@rutland.gov.uk

Further information about the work of the Local Access Forums is available at
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside

Agenda Item 13

Report by Richard Graham

Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park (LCCP) Access and Recreation Sub-Group

It is now twelve months since the formation of the Access and Recreation Task Group (TG) of the LCCP Task Team with the main responsibility to provide appropriate opportunities for recreation throughout the LCCP. Since inception the TG meetings have been regularly attended by the LAF members Richard Graham, Andy Savage, Chris Miller and Colin Smith. Others who regularly attend include Kate Percival, Senior Environment Officer of County Council, Dave Miller of Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Minty Willoughby a NFU/landowner representative, Tony Cox the Anderby Parish Council Chairman and cycling representative and Gillian Henshaw an equestrian representative. Efforts continue to achieve representation from the disabled community.

The TG has been concentrating on rights of way in the northern area of the LCCP, having drawn a map line between Huttoft and Anderby Creek. This is particularly in response to residents' comments at the LAF meeting held at Huttoft last year and the findings of the LCCP survey of rights of way which found some 50% were not easy to use. The TG recognises there is a lot of work to do particularly as regards involving landowners, Parish Councils and interested parties in any discussions. On a positive note, the TG has identified, via an independent consultant, rights of way suitable for diversion, extinguishing or creation in the northern area without any overall loss in access. At the last TG meeting the process started to examine in detail rights of way in the remainder of the LCCP area.

The TG continues to be proactive by looking at the forthcoming Coastal Access Path through the LCCP area. Liaison has been maintained with Natural England and the Coastal Access Delivery Team to co-work and avoid unnecessary duplication of routes. This has become more important as Natural England has published an estimated start time of 2015/16 for the coastal section between Skegness and Donna Nook. Finally, the TG has also been instrumental as part of the community consultation process in providing Sustrans and the County Council with suggested routes for the Lincolnshire Coastal Cycle Route.

Are there any questions?

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**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills - Executive Director –
Environment & Economy**

Report to: **Mid Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire and
Rutland Local Access Forums**
Date: **21/22 July 15**
Subject: **Countryside Access and Rights of Way
Improvement Plan Update**

Summary:

A report outlining the progress made in the implementation of the Lincolnshire Countryside Access and Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Recommendation(s):

i) That the forum notes the contents of the report.

1. Background

The responsibility to produce a Rights of Way Improvement Plan is a statutory duty arising from the Countryside and Rights of way Act 2000. The first Lincolnshire Countryside Access & Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) was adopted by the County Council on 3 April 2007.

The ROWIP is being implemented under four themes, each with a strategic aim and supporting the wider social objectives of the County Council including the aims of the LTP2:

- Sustainable Transport – *Strategic Aim to increase the use of the network for sustainable transport and utility trips*
- Health and Well-being – *Strategic Aim to make it easier for people to incorporate exercise into their daily lives and lead healthier lifestyles*
- Rural Economy and Tourism – *Strategic Aim to support local businesses and tourism through access improvements*
- Social Issues – *Strategic Aim to enable more people to enjoy walking and riding*

There is also a separate strand of Core Tasks that will assist in the management of the network and access opportunities.

The Countryside Access & Rights of Way Improvement Plan Year Action Plan is attached to this report as Appendix A.

2. Summary

Progress Report

Network Management- The highway divisions have continued to make general improvements through improved maintenance and enforcement works. In the period April 2007 to March 2015 these have included;

- 1,031 stiles provided or repaired,
- 1,889 new roadside signs,
- 2,297 routes waymarked,
- 651 gates provided or repaired,
- 424 new bridges,
- 333 stiles replaced with kissing gates,
- 260 stiles removed.

Improvement Schemes – Work has now commenced of the 2015/16 improvement programme. Schemes have again been focussed on routes in urban areas and on the urban fringe, routes in the region of countryside heritage sites and promoted routes. This year improvement works will also target the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park area.

Improvement schemes are currently being prepared at Market Deeping, Foston, Legsby and Chapel St Leonards.

3. Consultation

Scrutiny Comments

n/a

Executive Councillor Comments

n/a

Local Member Comments

n/a

Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report

Appendix A	Countryside Access & Rights of Way Improvement Plan Action Plan
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5. Background papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Andy Savage - Senior Countryside Access Officer, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or andrew.savage@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

APPENDIX A

Review of Statement of Action

Core Tasks

Ref	Action	Target date	Work Undertaken	Level of Completion
CT1	Review the Definitive Map Modification Order Priorities Policy and Public Path Order Policies in line with the RoWIP, to give a potentially higher priority to key routes that will improve or increase access.	2008	-Comprehensive review of DMMO policy completed in 2010. -PPO policy reviewed 2010.	Completed
CT2	Review the current Path Priority System for the maintenance and enforcement of PRow	2008	Path Priority System maintained under review.	Completed
CT3	Review Maintenance and Enforcement Policies for PRow and publicise to farmers, landowners and the public	2008 – 2009	Draft Enforcement Manual completed.	Partially Complete
CT4	Review current Parish Paths Partnership scheme and explore new ways to increase community involvement	2008	Review of parish paths partnership scheme completed in autumn 2009.	Completed
CT5	Undertake whole network condition survey	Complete by 2010	Survey complete – undertaken through the proactive inspection regime which ensures all paths receive an inspection at least once in a three year period.	Completed
CT6	Seek opportunities to reduce the number of unnecessary stiles and barriers on the PRow network	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	260 unnecessary stiles and barriers removed and 333 stiles replaced with kissing gates. Promoted routes surveyed to identify unnecessary stiles and barriers.	Completed
CT7	Continue to fully sign and waymark the PRow network	Throughout	1,889 new roadside fingerposts installed either	Completed

		Plan life 2007-2012	in new locations or to replace those in poor condition in addition 2,297 paths waymarked. Promoted routes surveyed to identify routes requiring signing or waymarking.	
CT8	Continue the annual programme of vegetation clearance on PRow	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Additional paths added to the schedule during ROWIP implementation years 1 - 4 as necessary and in line with improvement schemes and the development of new promoted routes. Austerity measures resulted in the re-examination of vegetation cutting schedule during implementation year 5.	Completed
CT9	Continue to ensure that the public has access to designated areas of Open Country and Registered Common Land under CRow Act 2000	2008	-Access Land Management Plan reviewed. -Access land inspection regime introduced. -Interpretative panels installed at South and West Commons in Lincoln. -Woodnook Valley, Grantham – Access controls and signage installed. -Lincoln Commons leaflets published.	Completed
CT10	Continue to provide information and promote wider use of the PRow Network	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Promotion of the network through various media including the LCC website, County News, local and national press and GP and community magazines. Searchable database of leaflets now available on the LCC Countryside website. 46 Lincolnshire Walks Leaflets have been published (since Apr 07) 8 Lincolnshire Cycling Leaflets have been	Completed

			<p>published (since Apr 07)</p> <p>Outdoor Guide produced (Lincolnshire Tourism)</p> <p>Visitor Guide produced (Lincolnshire Tourism)</p> <p>15 walking discovery packs produced with Lincs Tourism - 2009</p> <p>12 'Countryside for All' walks produced.</p> <p>'Walk more in Lincolnshire' produced in association with stakeholder groups.</p> <p>'Countryside Access' education pack produced.</p> <p>LCC Countryside microsite redesigned.</p> <p>Revised Countryside Code promoted on LCC web site.</p> <p>Walks Leaflets produced for the Poacher Line.</p> <p>4 Bus Walks produced for the Lincoln area.</p>	
CT11	Develop longer distance routes and trails	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Viking Way – Review provisionally planned for 2015.</p> <p>Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 given Royal Assent. No further action required at this time.</p> <p>Partnership Working</p>	Partially Complete

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spires & Steeples Trail now launched. • Lindsey Trail –completed. <p>Macmillan Way – Programme of infrastructure improvements undertaken around Boston and Surfleet.</p> <p>Save the Children walk – Assistance provided in route development.</p>	
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Sustainable Transport

Ref	Action	Target date	Work Undertaken	Level of Completion
SOA1	Identify and improve off road routes linking communities with schools, employment centres and local services	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Comments submitted regarding reviews of Community Travel Zones for Lincoln and Louth.</p> <p>Targeted improvements implemented on the following routes;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Claxby BOAT 753 – Improvement works 2. Lincoln PF No. 3 – Improvement works to increase accessibility to pushchairs. 3. Louth PF No. 11 – Improvement works to increase accessibility to school. 4. Crowland PF No. 6 – Surface improvement works undertaken at Wheatsheaf Yard. 5. North Somercotes PF No. 30 – Surface improvements works undertaken on village path. 6. Goulceby PF No. 25 – Surface improvement works undertaken on village path. 	Completed

		<p>7. Wainfleet St Mary PF No. 323 –Access improvement works undertaken on village path in conjunction with parish council.</p> <p>8. Branston PF No. 14 – Seating installed on village path.</p> <p>9. Tattershall PF Nos. 222 and 225 – Footpath connecting Tattershall village and Tattershall castle upgraded to full accessibility standard.</p> <p>10. Market Rasen PF No. 167 – Surface improvements.</p> <p>11. Doddington PF No. 8 – Surface improvements.</p> <p>12. Skellingthorpe PB No. 3a – Surface improvements.</p> <p>13. Skegness PF 297 (Vine Walk) – Surface Improvements.</p> <p>14. Horncastle PF 76 - Surface Improvements.</p> <p>15. Lincoln PF 60 – Surface improvement works undertaken between Doddington Road and Hartsholme Country Park.</p> <p>16. Saxilby PF 204 – Surface improvements.</p> <p>17. Holton le Clay PF 1 – Surface improvements.</p> <p>18. North Somercotes PF 32 – Surface improvement works School Lane to Warren Road.</p> <p>19. Scotton PF 4 – Surface improvements.</p> <p>20. Quadring PF 5 – Bridge upgraded between village and primary school.</p> <p>21. Boston PF1 – Bridge upgrading works.</p> <p>22. Horncastle PF80 – Resurfacing works.</p> <p>23. Glentham PF 844 – Resurfacing and revetment works.</p> <p>24. Market Rasen PF 162 – Resurfacing works.</p>	
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		<p>25. Conningsby PF 224 – Resurfacing works. 26. Skegness PF 307 – Surfacing works. 27. Upton PF 50 – Surfacing works. 28. Gedney PF 15 – Surfacing and revetment works. 29. Sleaford PF 17 – Surface improvements 30. Skellingthorpe PF No. 15 –Surface improvements 31. Wellingore PF 5 – Surface Improvements 32. Nocton PF 10 – Surface Improvements 33. Reepham PF 131 – Culvert Improvements 34. Waddingham PF 72 – Surface Improvements 35. Walesby Byway 524 – Surface Improvements 36. Lincoln PF 11 – Surface Improvements 37. Bourne PF 1 – Surface Improvements 38. Saxby PF 9 – Bridge Upgrading 39. Market Rasen PF 163 – Surface Improvements 40. Grasby PF 49 - Surface Improvements 41. Trusthorpe PF 863 – Surface Improvements 42. Trusthorpe PF 816 – Surface Improvements 43. Sleaford PF 948 – Surface Improvements 44. Lincoln PF60 – Surface Improvements 45. Skellingthorpe PB 3 – Surface Improvements 46. Waddington PF 3– Surface Improvements 47. Claxby PF 107 - Surface Improvements 48. Barrowby PF 7 - Surface Improvements 49. Grantham PF 12 - Surface Improvements 50. Mablethorpe PF 317 - Surface</p>	
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			<p>Improvements</p> <p>51. Grantham PF 18 - Surface Improvements</p> <p>52. Colsterworth PF 20 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>53. Welton PF 169 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>54. Scothern PF 153 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>55. Skegness PF 318 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>56. Folkingham PF 17 –Surface Improvements</p> <p>57. M Deeping PF 2 –Surface Improvements</p> <p>58. Nettleham PF 145 –Surface Improvements</p> <p>59. Lincoln PF 62 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>Additional small scale works undertaken at various locations by LCC highway divisions.</p>	
SOA2	Improve enforcement and management of urban rights of way to combat litter, fly tipping and dog fouling	2011	<p>LCC Divisions and Borough Councils contacted regarding issues of flytipping on public rights of way to highlight areas experiencing excessive flytipping.</p> <p>Borough Councils contacted to clarify protocols for dealing with dog fouling on public rights of way</p>	Completed
SOA3	Seek improvements for non-motorised travel in proposals for new developments. Schemes funded through developer contributions	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Regular liaison takes place with planning authorities to ensure that maximum public benefits are realised.</p> <p>Comments are submitted on planning applications as they arise.</p> <p>Comments submitted to: -Stamford – Newstead Development Proposals consultation.</p>	Completed

			-Lincoln Eastern Bypass -Grantham Southern Quadrant Relief Road	
SOA4	Develop walking and cycling from public transport interchanges	2011	<p>Railway walks leaflets produced from Poacher Line stations;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heckington to Sleaford 2. Ancaster to Sleaford. 3. Skegness to Wainfleet. 4. Metheringham <p>Information included in Getting Around Lincolnshire (Lincs CC)</p> <p>Walking and cycling details included on all new (LCC) bus and train guides.</p> <p>Lincolnshire Walks information displayed at selected bus stops locations.</p>	Completed
SOA5	Promote use of public transport on leaflets and website	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Public transport promoted on publications and web site.</p> <p>Information is added to promotional material (ie Lincolnshire Walks.</p> <p>Lincolnshire walks information included in Area Bus Guides.</p> <p>Lincolnshire walks information now displayed at selected bus stop locations.</p> <p>Bus stop information displayed on the revised</p>	Completed

			<p>CAMs Web system.</p> <p>ADT participation in the Lincolnshire County Council 'Walk, Bike and Share ...' event.</p> <p>Development of 2 walks from Lincoln bus routes.</p>	
SOA6	Public rights of way guidance for planning authorities and developers	2008	Meetings held with planning authorities to standardise the format and promotion of orders. Specific guidance to developers and district councils to be undertaken in 2012.	Completed

Health and Well Being

Ref	Action	Target date	Works Undertaken	Level of Completion
SOA7	Improve infrastructure on paths used for health walks initiatives	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Improvement of health walking network undertaken with £110,000 of Lincolnshire PCT funding. 496 miles of health walking routes surveyed for improvements and programme of improvement works devised.</p> <p>The programme of improvement works included surface improvements, bridge upgrading and improvements to path infrastructure.</p>	Completed
SOA8	Reduce number of unnecessary barriers on PROW	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Unnecessary stiles and barriers identified during routine maintenance works removed on identification of funding.	Completed

			260 stiles were removed as unnecessary and 333 stiles were replaced with gates.	
SOA9	Ensure cross field paths are reinstated after ploughing	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Enforcement Policy Manual completed.	Partially Completed
SOA10	Improve routes in areas of highest health deprivation in Lincolnshire.	2012	<p>Areas of highest health deprivation identified and mapped - information sent to LCC highways divisions with recommendation of targeted improvements in highlighted areas.</p> <p>Walking and cycling information distributed to 18 health centres in highlighted areas (March 10).</p> <p>Walking and cycling information offered to all health centres (2011).</p>	Completed
SOA11	Undertake accessibility audit of the network	2011	<p>Following consideration full network accessibility survey considered impossible to undertake. Full network condition survey therefore used to obtain accessibility information.</p> <p>Accessibility audit undertaken of all Lincolnshire Walks during 2010.</p>	Partially Completed
SOA12	Develop a range of key routes in conjunction with disability groups.	2012	<p>5 Countryside for all routes published using Aggregate Levy Sustainability Funding (2010)</p> <p>7 Countryside for all routes published in association with the Lincolnshire LAFs using LCC Public Health funding – spring 2014.</p>	Completed
SOA13	Promote health walking schemes and help partners	Throughout	Promotional links established and support	Completed

	with development of new schemes.	Plan life 2007-2012	<p>mechanisms in place.</p> <p>Ongoing. PCT funding enabled expansion of health walks schemes and GP referrals. Funding secured through "Choosing Health".</p> <p>Support given to Boston leisure and health walks to produce 6 walks leaflets.</p> <p>Attendance at the 'Getting out There' event.</p> <p>'Explore the Lincolnshire Countryside' – Posters published July 10.</p> <p>Funding provided in association with Lincolnshire PCT to enable the creation of additional access in the Westgate Wood extension at Boston.</p> <p>Anderby health walking group established. 2 bridges installed at Anderby.</p> <p>Support given to Sustrans in East Lindsey to produce health walks leaflets.</p> <p>Attendance at Lincs Walks forum.</p> <p>Annual advert placed in GP and community magazines.</p>	
SOA14	Promote benefits of rights of way to wider range of potential users	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Assistance provided in the Wolds Walking Festival, LCCP, Countryside Events Programme and Wash week.	Completed.

			<p>Attendance at the 'Sustainable Schools Showcase' to promote countryside access to young people (2010).</p> <p>Attendance at 'Walk it, Bike it, Share it'.</p> <p>'Walk more in Lincolnshire' leaflet produced in association with stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Lincolnshire articles published in the East Midlands LAF newsletter.</p> <p>'Countryside Access' education pack published.</p> <p>Countryside for all pack produced (2010)</p> <p>Adverts placed in GP and community magazines.</p> <p>Attendance at 'Get out There' events (2009).</p> <p>Articles in County News.</p> <p>Attendance at Lincolnshire Show.</p> <p>Attendance at Heckington Show (2011)</p>	
SOA15	Produce targeted information for doctors surgeries, health centres in areas of highest health deprivation	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>8 Adverts and editorial articles featured in various editions of the 'Lincolnshire New GP Community Health Care Magazine'.</p> <p>Leaflets sent to health centres (2010).</p>	Completed

			Information sent to all health centres (2011).	
SOA16	Publicise barrier free routes	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Audit undertaken of all routes included in Lincolnshire Walks series of leaflets.</p> <p>12 Countryside for all routes promoted.</p> <p>Infrastructure information displayed on the Cams Web Map.</p>	Completed
SOA17	Promote responsible countryside access	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Responsible countryside access promoted through various media including the LCC website, County News, Agenda magazine and local and national press.</p> <p>. Countryside Code promoted on the Countryside web site.</p> <p>Attendance at 'Get out there' event (2009).</p> <p>Attendance at 'Sustainable Schools Showcase' (2009).</p> <p>'Countryside Access' education pack published.</p> <p>Attendance at local shows (Lincolnshire and Heckington shows).</p>	Completed

Rural Economy and Tourism

Ref	Action	Target date	Works Undertaken	Level of Completion
SOA18	Identify and develop circular and linear recreational routes to and from countryside / heritage tourism sites	2011	<p>Improvement works undertaken in the influence of tourism sites as required.</p> <p>6 Limewoods walks leaflets published.</p> <p>2 Limewoods cycling leaflets published.</p> <p>2 Walks leaflets produced for the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park.</p> <p>1 Walk leaflet produced for the Lincolnshire Coastal Grazing Marshes project</p> <p>Most walks/cycle designed to include connections with local heritage.</p> <p>Limewoods Signage – Public rights of way signage in the Limewoods area replaced with oak finger posts extending from Bardney to Wragby, Fiskerton and Faldingworth.</p> <p>Missing link dedicated to create circular walking route at Bassingham.</p> <p>North Willingham No. 523 – Surface improvement works undertaken through Willingham Woods.</p> <p>Tattershall Public Footpath Nos. 222 and 225 – Footpath connecting Tattershall village and</p>	Completed

		<p>Tattershall castle upgraded to full accessibility standard.</p> <p>Horncastle PF 76 - Surface Improvement works.</p> <p>Lincoln PF 60 – Surface improvement works undertaken between Doddington Road and Hartsholme Country Park.</p> <p>Scotton PF 4 – Surface improvement works.</p> <p>Anderby PF 16 and 22 – 2 new bridges to be provided on existing footpaths in the LCCP area.</p> <p>Middle Rasen BW 514 – surface improvement works.</p> <p>Claxby with Moorby BW 194 – surface improvement works.</p> <p>Fiskerton Public Bridleway No. 221 – bridge improvements.</p> <p>Skegness PF 307 – surface improvement works.</p> <p>Viking Way – Installation of benches.</p> <p>Gedney PF 15 – Surface Improvement works.</p> <p>Sleaford PF No. 17 – Surface improvement works adjacent to the River Sleas.</p>	
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			<p>Fiskerton PF No. 116 – Access Improvement Works.</p> <p>Walesby Byway No. 524 – Surface Improvement Works</p> <p>Bourne PF 1 – Surface Improvement Works</p> <p>Muckton PB 307 – Surface Improvement Works</p>	
SOA19	<p>Improve the maintenance and management of routes close to popular areas of the county and key tourist attractions.</p>	2011	<p>Routes identified in the influence of tourism sites and designated areas and implement improvement works as required.</p> <p>See SOA 18</p> <p>Gedney access improvements. Infrastructure improvements on Gedney ‘Lincolnshire walk’ undertaken.</p> <p>North Willingham Byway 523 – Surface Improvements.</p> <p>Linwood Byway 764 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>Lindsey Trail Surface Improvements – Winceby High Barn to Ashby Puerorum UCR and Ranby Restricted Byway No. 61.</p> <p>Viking Way Surface Improvements - Somerby PF49 and Waddington PF No. 3</p>	Completed

			<p>Ingoldsby PB 14 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>Chapel St Leonards PF 21 – Surface Improvements</p> <p>Brinkhill BW 119 – Surface Improvements</p>	
SOA20	Improve maintenance and promotion of promoted routes and county trails	2011	Audit of Lincolnshire Walks routes undertaken to identify infrastructure and waymarking/ signage improvements and improvements to vegetation cutting regime.	Completed
SOA21	Support and encourage new tourist attractions to include walking and cycling through the planning consultation process.	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Highways divisional staff comment on planning applications as they arise and suggest recommendations for improved walking and cycling provision during the planning consultation process.	Completed
SOA22	Support partners with development of new trails	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>Partners supported with the development of new trails.</p> <p>-Spires and Steeples Trail launched 3 May 2008.</p> <p>-Spa Trail works completed.</p> <p>-Support given to South Holland Borough Council to develop a series of walking and cycling routes.</p> <p>-6 Limewoods walks leaflets published.</p> <p>-2 Limewoods cycling leaflets published.</p>	Completed

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Nottinghamshire Strategic Cycle Network – Support given to the provision of a strategic cycle path between Sherwood Forest and Lincoln city centre. -Support and advice provided to ASR- Leisure in the development of Cycle Touring Routes in the Northern Wolds. -Save the Children route. Support provided to initial route development. -Macmillan Way – Infrastructure improvements undertaken between Boston and Surfleet in conjunction with the Environment Agency. -Viking Way – benches installed at Walesby and to the south of Lincoln. -The Lindsey Trail carriage driving route opened in spring 2012. -Support given to Boston BC in the development of the health walks network. -Supports given to Sustrans in the development of the health walks network. -Support provided for the re development of the Trent Valley Way. -Support given to the LCCP for the production of the walks leaflets. 	
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			-Access advice provided for the Lincolnshire Coastal Grazing Marshes project.	
SOA23	Develop a Lincolnshire Coastal trail	2012	Marine and Coastal Access Act provided Royal Assent in November 2009. No further action required at this time.	Partially Complete
SOA24	Provide public transport information at key sites and promoted routes	Ongoing	Travel Line and LCC public transport information published on walking and cycling leaflets. Lincolnshire walks information now displayed at selected bus stop locations. Lincolnshire walks information included in the LCC area bus guides.	Completed
SOA25	Produce walking, cycling and riding information in a variety of formats and for holiday accommodation providers	Ongoing	Lincolnshire Tourism produced 15 Walking Discovery Packs as part of the 2008 marketing campaign promoting Lincolnshire as a short break destination for walking, cycling and golf. Packs made available to accommodation providers. Outdoor Guide produced (Lincolnshire Tourism). Lincolnshire Outdoor Guide distributed to TICs in Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Norfolk and South Yorkshire. 12 Countryside for all routes published.	Completed

			<p>Searchable database of Lincolnshire Walks produced.</p> <p>46 Lincolnshire Walks Leaflets produced.</p> <p>8 Lincolnshire Cycling Leaflets produced.</p>	
SOA26	Develop website to include interactive web walks with links to local services and tourist attractions	2007	<p>Searchable walks database published in 2010.</p> <p>LCC Countryside micro site redesigned in 2011.</p> <p>Revised Countryside Access Map published in 2011.</p>	Completed
SOA27	Develop a range of information panels at gateways sites/ villages to promote access opportunities and local services available	2012	<p>Consideration given to installing interpretation panels in P3 parishes. Austerity measures prevent full implementation. PRow plans provided for P3 groups for display on parish notice boards.</p> <p>Interpretation panels installed on South and West Commons in Lincoln.</p>	Partially Complete

Social Issues

Ref	Action	Target date	Works Undertaken	Level of Completion
SOA28	Improve quality of waymarking to increase user confidence and assist land managers	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	<p>1,889 new roadside fingerposts installed either in new locations or to replace those in poor condition in addition 2,297 paths waymarked.</p> <p>Limewoods Signage – Public rights of way</p>	Completed.

			<p>signage in the Limewoods area replaced with oak fingerposts with some containing destination and distance information.</p> <p>Promoted route survey completed.</p> <p>Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park Signage – Public rights of way signage in the LCCP area replaced with oak fingerposts with some containing destination and distance information.</p>	
SOA29	Identify all missing bridges on key network routes, develop and implement a work programme	2010	Missing bridges identified. Capital bridges programme commenced, reduced funding prevents further action at this time.	Partially Completed
SOA30	Implement programme of signing selected unsurfaced unclassified county roads	2011	Officer time spent identifying UCRs and gap analysis using GIS of PROW network and other access. Programme of signage based on demand and necessity nearing completion.	Partially Completed
SOA31	Clarify who can use which route through better signage.	2007	<p>Officer time spent to identify UCRs and gap analysis undertaken using GIS of PROW network and other access.</p> <p>Alternative formats of signage considered by LAF and highway divisions. Signage for restricted byways produced 2008.</p>	Completed
SOA32	Develop a programme of improved vegetation cutting on key routes close to settlements with parish councils	2009	Programme of improved vegetation cutting in place on key routes. Additional paths added to the schedule during ROWIP implementation years 1 - 4. Austerity measures resulted in re-examination of vegetation cutting schedule	Partially Complete

			during implementation year 5. P3 scheme review currently underway.	
SOA33	Complete audit of busy road crossings and implement prioritised programme of improvements	2011	Audit of road and rail crossings now complete. Short list of most 'hazardous' crossings forwarded to LCC Divisions, Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership, Highways Agency and Network Rail. Austerity measures prevent any further action at this time.	Partially Complete
SOA34	Improve management of existing routes available for motorised users and carriage drivers.	2011	Audit of unsurfaced UCRs completed. Production of management plan underway.	Partially Complete
SOA35	Identify all cross boundary links with neighbouring authorities to ensure consistency of maintenance and promotion.	2011	Identification of cross boundary links and issues yet to commence.	No action taken
SOA36	Pilot a project to prepare signage incorporating distance and destination information to key routes.	2012	Limewoods Signage – Public rights of way signage in the Limewoods area replaced with oak fingerposts.	Completed
SOA37	Support highway divisions with the implementation of Quiet Lanes.	2012	Funds no longer available to undertake Quiet Lanes project in North Division pilot area.	No action taken
SOA38	Develop a range of circular routes for cyclists and equestrians in areas of highest demand. Identify suitable roadside verges and "behind the hedge" links to create safer links between existing routes and improve management of those links identified. Support DEFRA schemes that increase access and link PRow.	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Officer time spent on ROWIP area priorities mapping. 8 Lincolnshire cycling leaflets produced. Lindsey Trail – route opened spring 2012. Consultation responses provided to Natural England in response to Higher Level Stewardship Applications.	Partially Completed

SOA39	Identify areas deficient in access where access proposals would benefit the rights of way network.	2007	Discussions have taken place with Natural England and LAFs were briefed in October 2007 in relation to HLS access. ROWIP implementation priorities overview mapping completed for transport and health.	Completed
SOA40	Review current Definitive Map Modifications Order priority system to give priority to key cases that will improve connectivity of the existing network of users.	2007	New priority system introduced in 2006. Review undertaken in 2010.	Completed
SOA41	Establish a priority system for Public Path Orders giving higher priority to cases that will improve connectivity on the existing network of users	2007	Public Path Order Priority System maintained under review.	Completed
SOA42	Implement programme of staff training to raise awareness of diversity issues relating to countryside access	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Disabled Access Audit training event held for LCC PRoW staff in November 09. Relevant information disseminated to staff as required.	Completed
SOA43	Identify existing routes that meet needs of restricted mobility users and publicise	2011	12 Countryside for All routes published. Promoted routes surveyed to identify unnecessary stiles and barriers. PRoW infrastructure details displayed on the countryside access map.	Completed
SOA44	Develop and implement an accessibility policy in conjunction with disability groups	2009	Accessibility Guidance produced.	Completed
SOA45	Develop links with organisations to implement a programme of themed guided walks, rides and events	Throughout Plan life 2007-2012	Continuing to build on existing contacts and partnerships. Funding required to implement countryside access projects. Involvement in the Wolds Walking Festival, Spires and Steeples Trail events, Wash Week,	Completed

			LCCP programme of events and Boston Community weekend.	
SOA46	Develop policies and guidance which explain how the authority manages PROW and access	2011	Policy areas identified and included in officer work programmes. Work undertaken to produce; -Path priority system, -Accessibility Guidance, -DMMO policy, -PPO policy, -Enforcement Manual.	Completed
SOA47	Promote leaflets and access information to increase confidence and take up by none users.	2007	Natural England produced leaflet for the revised Countryside Code. Information also displayed on the LCC Countryside micro site. Searchable database of Lincolnshire Walks produced for LCC website. 46 Lincolnshire Walks Leaflets produced. 8 Lincolnshire Cycling Leaflets produced. 12 Countryside for all routes published.	Completed
SOA48	Improve driver awareness of equestrians	2011	Equestrian leaflets distributed through Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership as part of Driver Improvement Programme.	Completed
SOA49	Produce Countryside Access newsletter	2011	Publication of newsletter to commence in 2012.	No action taken

North East Lincolnshire ROWIP Objectives

NELC ROWIP Key Action	Project Details	Comments	Update
KA08, KA11 & KA13	Safer Road Crossings	Joint partnership project with road safety team to improve exit points onto busy A road and installation of information promotional boards.	Public Footpath 21 Stallingborough currently crosses busy Stallingborough Interchange. This matter is currently being assessed to find a resolution. Bridleway 91 Ashby Cum Fenby has had to be closed due to deterioration of embankment at exit point onto Barton Street. Diversion Order considered appropriate solution to divert exit to safer, flatter location further along Barton Street directly opposite ongoing route to avoid users having to walk, cycle and ride along narrow roadside verge. The diversion order was approved by the Secretary of State but a mapping discrepancy was later found requiring the making of a Section 326 Variation Order to correct the error. The Variation Order has now been made and advertised but was objected to once again by the landowner. The opposed order will therefore need to be referred to the Secretary of State in due course.
KA5, KA9, KA11 & KA13	Strategic Urban Path Improvement Plan	Project to deliver surface upgrades to existing well used paths in the urban area.	Planned works to improve 2 further paths last year were put on hold due to lack of available funding. These projects have been carried forward to this year - Bradley BW93 & East Ravendale BW137.
KA01 & KA03	Reinstatement of FP72	Ongoing legal issues to determine accurate line of FP72 requiring amendment to Definitive Map and reinstatement of path on the ground.	Decision made by Inspector not to confirm 2013 diversion order. NELC now considering best way forward but remain committed to reinstating FP72.
KA1, KA2, KA3 & KA4	Definitive Map Issues	Address legal deficiencies with a view to eventually producing an up to date Consolidation Map.	Process to produce new Consolidated Definitive Map for the North East Lincolnshire area is currently underway. Current Definitive Map has a relevant date of June 1953. Consolidating the Def Map will take into account recent resolution of over 110 Legal Orders during the last year.
KA4 & KA5	Policy Development	Produce & develop policies under which the Authority will deal with specific issues.	Currently awaiting approval of a 'Gaps, gates and stiles' policy to address unnecessary limitations upon the network and formalise the application process for landowners for new furniture.
	Grimsby Bridleway Project	Scheme to address lack of bridle links from rural villages to urban area.	A project has recently commenced that is looking to create a bridle link to the urban area, using publicly accessible land alongside the River Freshney.

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North East Lincolnshire DMMO's (Definitive Map Modification Orders)

Ref Number	Parish	Location	Effect of Application	Date of Application	Progress Notes
DMMO 3	Grimsby	Humberston Road to Weelsby Woods	Claimed Footpath	20/10/2003	Discussions with the developer of this land have been positive and an outline Planning application has recently been submitted that will provide for the claimed route within the site.
DMMO 6	Cleethorpes	New Clee Sidings (Fuller Street Bridge to Salvesen Road)	Claimed Footpath and Restricted	20/03/2008	Following receipt of legal advice, the 2012 DMMO has been formally abandoned and approval given to make a new DMMO which will extend the claimed route to the Suggitts Lane crossing
DMMO 7	Grimsby	Vicarage Gardens/Compton Drive to Bargate	Claimed Footpath	18/03/2008	Original claim submitted after landowner planned to lock Kissing Gate at centre of path to restrict access and improve security of Vicarage Gardens. Elderly Vicarage Gardens residents objected due to length of alternative route. Have written to certain providers of evidence forms to arrange meeting to take witness statements. No responses received.
DMMO 8	Grimsby	Macaulay Lane to Newhaven Terrace	Claimed Footpath	17/04/2008	Development of the Country Park has almost completed, which includes the provision of a footpath along claimed line. Legal dedication of the path will be arranged in due course to legalise path as Public Footpath which will resolve claim.
DMMO 9	Grimsby	Ferriby Lane to Bradley	Claimed Bridleway	17/05/2008	Discussions have commenced with landowners and developers to arrange Dedication agreements to legalise the claimed route, which has been accepted by and provided for by them on the ground during the ongoing Scartho Top development.

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North East Lincolnshire Public Path Orders

Ref No.	Location & Path No.	Type of Order	Self Initiated or Application	Progress Notes
PPO 4	Waltham FP72	HA s119	Self initiated	Inspector's decision was not to confirm 2013 diversion order. NELC now considering how we will move forward but remain committed to re-establishing FP72.
PPO 14	Ashby Cum Fenby BW91	HA s119	Self initiated	The Variation Order to correct a mapping discrepancy within the 2014 PPO has now been advertised with an objection received once again from the landowner. The opposed Order is to be referred to the Secretary of State in due course.
PPC 15	Stallingborough FP21	HA s118 & s26	Self initiated	The Orders have been referred back to Committee to be formally withdrawn following the discovery of a technical error in the wording. Officers are now considering possible alternatives to the diversion route in light of the number of objections received during the consultation period.
PPC 16	Humberston FP52	HA s119	Self initiated	Diversion order to be made to relocate and reinstate this path which has been unavailable for some time.

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