



To: All of the Chief Executives
of District Councils in Lincolnshire
(copy of letter to: All Portfolio Holders
with responsibility for Planning)

Tel:- (01522) 553788

28 July 2017

Dear Chief Executive,

Mid-Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire Local Access Forums – Public Rights of Way – Generic Advice to Planning Authorities

The Mid-Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire Local Access Forums have recently considered a report by Chris Miller, Environmental Services Team Leader (Countryside), in connection with the effect of planning applications on Public Rights of Way (PROWs). The Forums noted advice given by the Leicestershire Local Access Forum to Leicestershire Local Authorities and a copy of this advice is enclosed for information.

Both Forums have expressed concern about the lack of knowledge in some cases by District Planning Authorities in connection with the need to consult the County Council's Countryside Services about the effects of a planning application on a PROW. In some exceptional cases a planning application has been approved without any knowledge of the existence of a PROW.

The Forums noted that officers from the Countryside section had recently attended a meeting of the Development Management Officers' Group where the following issues had been discussed:-

1. Provision of Mapping System Updates – it was agreed that the County Council would send yearly electronic updates to GIS Public Rights of Way mapping layers held by District Councils for their use in processing planning applications and drafting Public Path Orders.
2. Amendment made to Section 257 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by Section 12 of the Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013.
3. Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Orders and Safe Design Principles.
4. Other Matters – Amongst others, this included the procedure for dealing with Draft Public Path Orders; implications of the Deregulation Act 2015.

The Forums welcome your comments on the use of the advice given by the Leicestershire Local Access Forum to Lincolnshire planning authorities and or developers and any other comments you may have generally.

Yours sincerely

Chris Padley
Chairman of the
Mid-Lincolnshire
Local Access Forum

Councillor Ray Wootten
Chairman of the
South Lincolnshire
Local Access Forum

(Please send your response to the following:-

Steve Blagg, Democratic Services, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL or
email – steve.blagg@lincolnshire.gov.uk)