

Torbay Local Access Forum – Information Sharing as at November 2012

(Most recently received shown first)

For Members who do not have access to a computer, please ask the TLAF Secretary for a copy of information OF PARTICULAR INTEREST ONLY shown below (always bearing in mind cost for printing same).

Green Infrastructure Data

The Chief Medical Officer, Professor Dame Sally Davies, has produced her first annual report - 'On the State of the Public's Health'. This is a comprehensive report looking at specific diseases etc. Chapter 4 is, however, on the social determinants of health and p.14 of this chapter provides some interesting data/graphs on 'Sustainable communities, place and vulnerability - green space and infrastructure.' Data used to produce the chapter will be available shortly by local authority.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/11/cmo-annual-report/>

Hilary

Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator

Natural England Chief Executive's Report for Board Meeting on 27 November

As always the Natural England Chief Executive's Report for the Board meeting, to be held on 27th November, makes interesting reading. I have copied the sections particularly relevant to LAFs which can be found in the attachment. I have blind-copied this e-mail to LAF Chairs.

The full report and other agenda papers are on

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/ourpeople/neboard/meetings/november2012/default.aspx

Regards
Hilary

Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs

Received 21.11.12.

Pathwatch - Illegal Use of PROW

http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/community_safety/pathwatch/index.aspx

This link has been sent to me by a LAF member. Interesting to see the police and local authorities in these areas working very publicly to reduce illegal use of PROW, particularly by motorised vehicles.

Hilary

Hilary Winter

Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs

Received 15.11.12.

Natural England – National Nature Reserve dedication

Further to the letter from Natural England about National Nature Reserve dedication, an additional letter clarifying LAF involvement and contact with NE has been put on Huddle and is also attached.

Hilary Winter



October letter re NE
NNR dedication.pdf

Received 25.10.12.

LAF updates from Hilary Winter

Growth and Infrastructure Bill

I am copying below an e-mail from Dave Waterman at Defra referring to clauses in the Growth and Infrastructure Bill currently going through Parliament. In addition to the amendments below there are also proposed changes to the legislation on town and village greens - "Reform will protect local communities' ability to determine what development is appropriate in their areas by preventing TVG applications overriding decisions made following local consultation on plans. The new approach will prevent TVG applications when an application for planning permission has been made or granted, and when land has been allocated for development by the local authority." <http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2012/10/18/ending-abuse-of-village-greens-legislation/>



Growth and
Infrastructure Bill.doc

Forestry Commission – new woodland planting

Attached is a letter from the Forestry Commission seeking views on new woodland planting. Although there is a tight deadline of the end of October views will still be accepted up until the end of December. This is more complex than usual as views are sought on woodland planting in association with designated National Character Areas. The letter gives a link to the Natural England site with information and maps for the NCAs - smaller areas with certain landscape characteristics. There may be opportunities to link with green infrastructure plans, recreational trails etc.



Dear
Stakeholder.doc

Received 22.10.12.

Ramblers Vision for National Trails

http://www.ramblers.org.uk/Resources/Ramblers%20Association/Website/National_Trails_Fantastic_Future.pdf

The Ramblers has published its vision for an independent trust to manage National Trails. Natural England is considering responses to its review of National Trails and this contribution from the Ramblers will contribute significantly to the debate about the future of the Trails.

Hilary

Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs

Received 4.10.12.

Independent Panel on Forestry

For your information - letter from TLAF to DEFRA sent on 3 October 2012 regarding stakeholder engagement following publication of the Independent Panel on Forestry's final report.



06 Response to Final
Report Independent I

Response from DEFRA 6 November 2012



08 Response from
DEFRA Public Forest f

Extract from Natural England Board Paper for September 26th 2012

b. People are inspired to value and conserve the natural environment:

<p>Access and Engagement</p> <p>We work locally with stakeholders, partners and community groups to deliver improvements to and economic benefits from Access infrastructure.</p> <p>Measures:</p> <p>1) Delivery of £500,000 of Paths for Communities Grants. 2) Delivery of Access to Nature Grants worth £7m. 3) 70 per cent of Local Access Forums with annual reports for public display. 4) 85 per cent of Local Access Forums represented on the electronic forum.</p>	<p>End of July Performance</p>	<p>Green</p>
	<p>Year end Outlook</p>	<p>Green</p>

The Paths for Communities Scheme has been widely promoted and we have received over 70 expressions of interest with the first full applications now expected in August. The Scheme booklet and score sheet are now available on our website and the first Grants Panel meeting is scheduled for early September.

We continue to meet our target for Access to Nature grant claims to be awarded within 20 working days and are on target to distribute our annual programme budget spend of £7.1 million. The additional Supporting Change Funding award assessment process has been independently quality assured 'with flying colours'.

Our Local Access Forums (LAF) work is ongoing with the reporting proforma for LAFs agreed, and at a local level advice and support to LAFs continuing through training on the Huddle online communication tool and providing briefing on Paths for Communities and other access issues.

Full papers on

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/ourpeople/neboard/meetings/september2012/default.aspx

Received 20.9.12.

MEME Monthly update for July 2012

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/mene-report-july2012_tcm6-33775.pdf

The Monitoring Engagement with the Natural Environment Report for July 2012 is on the above link. It's worth noting a few key facts:

The 230.9 million visits taken in July 2012 is lower than the 235.3 million visits taken in June 2012 and the 242.6 million visits taken in July 2011.

For the first time since October 2009, the volume of visits to green spaces in towns and cities exceeded those to the countryside.

Between June and July 2012, visits to green spaces in towns and cities increased by 3.5 percent, while visits to the countryside dropped by 13 percent

In July 2012, ten percent of adults reported they had never visited the natural environment over the previous year.

Hilary

*Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs*

Received 20.9.12.

Information from Hilary Winter

Following the regional coordinators' teleconference yesterday there are a few matters to bring to your attention.

- Paths for Communities. Natural England has had over 100 expressions of interest but it is taking longer to achieve full applications. LAFs are requested to encourage interest/applications wherever possible. The definition of 'rural' is now more flexible and is based on the MAGIC map version. This is available on the P4C page on the Natural England website. <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/access/rightsofway/p4c.aspx>
- Huddle. Please could you make this a standing agenda item to encourage dissemination of information from Huddle. It would be good to get a few more SW members on Huddle so please let me know if anyone is interested or would like a demonstration/training.
- The national conference in 2013 is planned for 27th February (Wednesday) commencing at 9.30 a.m. I don't know the venue yet but it will be in the Midlands and there will only be one conference. As in 2012 one or two members from each LAF will be able to attend with travel (and overnight accommodation if required) paid for by Natural England. I am attaching some suggestions for presentations/workshops that have been put forward. Please let me know whether your LAF has any other suggestions by the end of October at the latest so that a final programme can be put together.



Conference -
possible topics and sp

Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator

Received 18.9.12.

National Trails – review update

13 September 2012

Our National Trails are treasured long distance routes through the most beautiful areas of our countryside and are hugely important and valuable to our economy and the millions of people who enjoy them.

To ensure the long term protection and maintenance of National Trails, Natural England recently ran a [consultation](#) that focussed on improving how they are managed and funded – the first time this had been looked at for ten years. This consultation confirmed the Government's long-term commitment to securing and supporting these much loved routes.

In the consultation Natural England received 140 responses from a number of organisations which are closely involved in the care and maintenance of the Trails. These are now being carefully analysed and the response to the consultation will be published, following further partner discussion, by April 2013. Natural England and Defra are committed to completing the current review, which will give National Trails a more secure and well-managed future and makes the most of these important national and local assets for the benefit of all trail users, local

communities and business. This remains our priority over the coming months.

The Ramblers have proposed that an independent Trust is set up to look after National Trails in the future. We welcome this wider contribution to the important debate on the long term management of National Trails.

Clearly this proposal, or any other new management model would require further consideration, development and discussion with all interested parties, including the local highway authorities (the local authorities responsible for maintaining the trails), other user groups and landowners. We will help facilitate this discussion, as we progress more immediate changes that are needed to help secure the future of our National Trails"

Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs

Received 13.9.12.

Department for Transport report

The Department for Transport has, for the first time, produced a report on walking and cycling in England (those over 16 years old). This is based on figures from the Active People Survey conducted by Sport England. If you look at the report this will also give links to specific local authority data (district council level) and might help identify areas where activity is less.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/releases/local-area-walking-and-cycling-in-england-2010-11>

Received 7.9.12.

Updated guidance on LAFs and water access



Guidance for LAFs re
Advising on Open Wa

Received 6.9.12.

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE)

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) is producing a series of public health guidelines for local authorities to coincide with health improvement work coming across to local authorities. This is one of the first publications. Importantly in early 2013 there will be one on walking and cycling, followed by one on obesity.

For full details on NICE and the briefings see
<http://www.nice.org.uk/localgovernment/PublicHealthBriefingsForLocalGovernment.jsp>

Received 6.9.12.

Access Newsletter

Attached is Issue no 52 of the Department's Access newsletter which covers:

- Natural England review of the coastal access Scheme

- Natural England's consultation on the draft Kent coastal access report



Access-newsletter-Isue-52.pdf

Received 6.9.12.

New Secretary of State for Defra

The new Secretary of State for Defra is the Rt Hon Owen Paterson who replaces Caroline Spelman. For biographical details see

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/about/who/ministers/paterson/>

At the moment it looks as though Richard Benyon MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Natural Environment and Fisheries, retains his post. He has had responsibility for LAFs in the past.

Received 5.9.12.

Natural England website on P4C

The Natural England website on P4C has been updated to include a revised question and answer booklet which covers more details on types of scheme, landowner involvement and funding sources. There is also a new interactive link where interested applicants can check their project is classified as being in a qualifying 'rural' area.

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/access/rightsofway/p4c.aspx>

Received 31.8.12.