

Torbay Local Access Forum – Information Sharing as at August 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).

Independent Panel on Forestry

Message from Hilary Winter:

I asked Defra how it was going to engage following the Independent Panel on Forestry's report and a website comment that "Government will now need time to properly consider the work of the Panel – we will fully engage stakeholders and want to hear your views."

This is the response I received. The timescale is not entirely clear but your LAF may wish to make further representations.

Hilary Winter
Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs

Dear Ms Winter

Thank you for your email of 25 July about how the stakeholder engagement will work following the publication of the Independent Panel on Forestry's Final Report on 4 July. I have been asked to reply.

We want to listen to everyone's views; we will be meeting groups and organisations and working closely with stakeholders to inform our response. People are encouraged to give their views and can contact us at forestryresponse@defra.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Daisley
Customer Contact Unit
Defra

Received 1.8.12.

National Items of LAF Interest

Sent by Hilary Winter

NATURAL ENGLAND ANNUAL REPORT

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/reports/annualreportfeature.aspx

Natural England has just published its 2011-2012 Annual Report which is on the above link. There is much of interest in it but as far as LAFs are concerned the report on "Outcome 2: People are inspired to value and conserve the natural environment", is of greatest relevance. Pages 9-11 give details of highlights for Outcome 2, which include Weymouth Bay coastal access; Weymouth & Portland Green Infrastructure Project; working with national and local partners to improve the quantity and quality of green space - work in this area has included

seven new country park accreditations, two successful Local Access Forum national conferences, delivery of Access to Nature, and involvement in a number of local projects; the National Trail Review; the Pennine Bridleway; Natural Connections (a new approach to children's learning in the outdoors); transfer of Walking for Health to the Ramblers (with Macmillan Cancer Support funding); The Access to Nature scheme (which has enabled 862 communities to invest in and sustainably manage their local natural places. Investment made in almost 7,000 networks and access links between natural places. The impact of its successful delivery has attracted a further £1.37 million from the Big Lottery Fund); reviewed aims for a series of National Nature Reserves; community involvement in management of National Nature Reserves; increase in events held on National Nature Reserves.

COASTAL ACCESS

Cornwall CAF drew my attention to a Defra 'lessons learned' report on coastal access arising out of the Weymouth experience. This is not on the website but I've managed to get a pdf version. Interesting and particularly relevant to North Somerset/JLAF A map showing the planned coastal access timings is on http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/coast-map5-7_tcm6-31922.pdf

Minehead to Brean Down and a further stretch east of Weymouth are planned before 2017.



Lessons learned
FINAL.pdf

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/files/2012/07/No-Health-Without-Mental-Health-Implementation-Framework-Report-accessible-version.pdf>

The Department of Health has just published its National Framework to Improve Mental Health and Well-being. With health improvement work coming across to local authorities this includes some aspects of potential work for LAs which has some bearing on LAF work. It may be something for LAFs to keep an eye on, particularly if there are geographical areas with a greater incidence of mental health problems, where improvements in rights of way/green space could make a difference. One of the roles suggested for local authorities is to "**Assess how its strategies, commissioning decisions and directly provided services support and improve mental health and wellbeing.** Almost all areas of a local authority's responsibility have the potential to contribute to good mental health and wellbeing, or to lead to poor mental health. Decisions about employment, housing, planning, transport, leisure and green spaces and other community services all directly affect mental health." It is suggested community groups can "**Raise awareness of mental health amongst relevant organisations.** This could include public services, businesses and other private sector organisations. It could also include other community groups, including those with a focus on physical health, particularly long term conditions. In rural areas, this could also include Parish Councils, who work with many local voluntary organisations and are close to their communities."

Received 25.7.12.

Access Newsletter

Attached is Issue no 51 of the Department's Access newsletter which covers:

- Right of coastal access for Weymouth Bay

- Coastal access – new and updated guidance
- Consultation letter issued on 24 July 2012 on an Order for the Isle of Wight



Access-newsletter-Isue-51.pdf

Received 24.7.12.

Match funding for P4C

Emails from Hilary Winter:

Subject: FW: Match funding for P4C

Following the discussion at the SW LAFs meeting recently I am forwarding the response from Martin Gilchrist at Natural England on public funding. You will recall there was particular discussion about section 106 money and you will see that this is seen, disappointingly, as public money and therefore not eligible as part of match funding.

If there are any other potential funding sources that might be seen as public funding please check these with NE.

Hilary

-----Original Message-----

From: Gilchrist, Martin (NE) [<mailto:Martin.Gilchrist@naturalengland.org.uk>]

Sent: 16 July 2012 10:50

To: Hilary Winter

Cc: Isgrove, Dot (NE); Leek, Rob (NE)

Subject: Match funding for P4C

Hi Hilary,

Not good news I am afraid. None of the sources we discussed are eligible as match funding for Paths for Communities. Namely – S106 money – this counts as public money no matter how it is processed / held. Local Transport Plan, Local Sustainable Transport Fund

Sorry.....

Best wishes - Martin

Martin Gilchrist, Natural England, People and Access – Local Delivery team, 2nd Floor, Cromwell House, 15 Andover Road, Winchester, SO23 7BT, Mob. 07825 174918, www.naturalengland.org.uk

Dear all

Further to the e-mail I sent about P4C match funding I have had a number of e-mails from you seeking clarification and expressing surprise, particularly about Section 106 money. I have therefore had some further discussions with Martin Shaw, Senior People and Partnerships Adviser at Natural England, who is dealing with the P4C scheme. In this role he has had a number of discussions with Defra about what funding is and is not eligible to match fund P4C

projects.

Section 106. Any monies released as a compulsory part of a planning development are seen as a form of tax and are therefore not eligible. Any developer could, of course, make a voluntary donation to a P4C scheme.

Landfill Tax. Natural England is still seeking final assurances on this. The implication is that the funding source is ok as the landfill operator has a choice as to whether the tax money is put in a pot for good causes. Due to the degree of optionality it appears to overcome the question of public money.

Parish Councils. The precept money levied by the Parish Council is definitely not eligible. The presumption is that Parish Council money is not eligible unless the Parish Council can prove the money is not public, for example it is responsible for dealing with a legacy or local trust.

P4C schemes might attract funding from groups such as wildlife trusts, the National Trust and similar charities.

It is clear that the rules on public funding have tightened considerably in recent years,

Hilary

Received 19.7.12.

Follow up from SW LAF meeting

Message from Hilary Winter:

Following the SW LAF meeting a couple of weeks ago I am forwarding an attachment from Martin Gilchrist at Natural England which outlines the access and engagement evidence sources which NE has to hand. This is not the summary Martin mentioned as that is still in draft form but hopefully will provide some details in the interim.



Natural England -
Access & Engagemen

I have also done a quick summary of how to get more specific local authority data from the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey.



MENE LA data.doc

Mention was also made of the grant funds available in Hampshire and Wiltshire to support public rights of way improvements in parishes. Both these are very useful schemes and the LAFs are actively involved. Weblinks for information are:

Parish Improvement Grant Scheme (Wiltshire)

<http://www.wiltshirelaf.org.uk/>

From the main page click on the link to 2012 Path Improvement Grants now available.

Small Grants Scheme (Hampshire)

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/countryside/sqs.htm>

Received 19.7.12.

MENE

The third annual report (2011-12) on the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment survey has just been published by Natural England. A useful source of information if you want to find out detailed information about people's visits to the natural environment.

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/1712385?category=47018>

Received 11.7.12.

Paths for Communities

Updated guidance on the Paths for Communities scheme (v.2 26.06.12) is now on the website.

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/P4CApPLICANTHandbook_tcm6-32021.pdf

Received 6.7.12.

Countryside Mobility Newsletter

It's packed full of information about new sites and forthcoming events, and also includes news of an award for the scheme!

Claire Stewart
Countryside Mobility South West Admin Assistant
Living Options Devon
Isca House
Haven Road
Exeter EX2 8DS
Tel: 01392 456522

www.countrysidemobility.org

Living Options Devon is a Registered Charity (no. 1102489)

www.livingoptions.org



CMSW_Update_11_J
une2012.pdf

Received 5.7.12.

MENE

Monitor of Engagement results for April 2012. This survey has been going on since 2009 and people are surveyed weekly. The results show what type of place people are visiting, what they are doing, for how long, how they got there and what they spend. It's a good snapshot and useful evidence to support LAF advice.

Monthly results (Year 4) are on this link:

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/research/mene.aspx>



MENE Report April
2012.pdf

Received 20.6.12.

DEFRA's Access Newsletter

Please see below issue 50 of Defra's Access newsletter which covers the latest position on coastal access, details of consultations on rights of way and National Trails, and the launch of the Paths for Communities scheme.



Access-newsletter-Issue-50.pdf

Received 25.5.12.

Extract from the Chief Executive's report for the Natural England Board meeting on 30th May on Access and Engagement

Working with the Department of Health, Macmillan Cancer Support and the Ramblers, the handover of the Walking for Health Project to the Ramblers concluded on 31 March 2012 which represents the successful completion of Big Society divestment to the third sector or other non-governmental interests.

Working closely with local and national partners to increase the quantity and improve the quality of green space, we have delivered on a number of projects and initiatives enabling communities to be involved in the management of local green space. This includes seven new country park accreditations, two successful Local Access Forum national conferences and involvement in a number of local projects.

The Access to Nature scheme has enabled almost 900 communities to invest in and sustainably manage their local natural places, to better meet the needs of the local people and wildlife, which far exceeds our original target.

We have worked with a large consortium of partners to develop an ambitious demonstration project, Natural Connections, which will trial an innovative approach to the delivery of Outdoor Learning, for school age children.

The Weymouth Bay coastal access report was approved by the Secretary of State. The coastal path project was awarded the Inspire Mark, by London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and will open before the sailing events in July. The Weymouth and Portland Green Infrastructure (GI) project, one of four GI partnership projects in our London 2012 programme, has delivered in excess of 2000 hectares of new green infrastructure'

If you are interested in other papers from the Board meeting or delivery targets for SSSIs and biodiversity these are on

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

Hilary Winter

Regional Coordinator
SW Region LAFs

Received 25.5.12.

Paths for Communities Launched

Details of the grant scheme etc. are now on the Natural England website

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

Jane Yates from Natural England will be the lead adviser and grant officer for the SW, except for Dorset which will be covered by Kevin Haugh. Jane's contact numbers are **Direct Dial: 0300 060 0548 / Mobile Tel: 07900 608409** **E-mail Jane.Yates@naturalengland.org.uk** if you have any queries.

Received on 14.5.12.