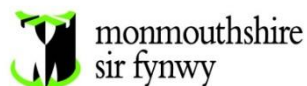


Public Document Pack



County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

18th January 2023

Notice of meeting Local Access Forum

Thursday, 26th January, 2023 at 11.00 am,
Room P4 - County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA

AGENDA

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1.	Apologies for Absence/Introductions	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
3.	To confirm and sign the minutes of the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum meeting of 19th July 2022	1 - 4
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5.	Gwent Green Grid Partnership (GGGP) - Green Corridors Strategic Access Plan	9 - 10
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7.	NRW Access Reform Programme Briefing Note December 2022	11 - 14
8.	Future work programme / Date of next meeting	15 - 18

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors: Ben Callard
Anne Underwood (Chair)
Irene Brooke (Vice Chair)
Anthea Fairey
Shan Lewis
David Farnsworth
David Smith
Tracy Hook
Gordon Davies
Jenny Cockitt
John Askew
Mark Storey
Martin Sweeney
Phil Mundell
Sheila Hampshire
Sylvia Fowles

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Welsh Language

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Outcomes we are working towards

Nobody Is Left Behind

- Older people are able to live their good life
- People have access to appropriate and affordable housing
- People have good access and mobility

People Are Confident, Capable and Involved

- People's lives are not affected by alcohol and drug misuse
- Families are supported
- People feel safe

Our County Thrives

- Business and enterprise
- People have access to practical and flexible learning
- People protect and enhance the environment

Our priorities

- Schools
- Protection of vulnerable people
- Supporting Business and Job Creation
- Maintaining locally accessible services

Our Values

- **Openness:** we aspire to be open and honest to develop trusting relationships.
- **Fairness:** we aspire to provide fair choice, opportunities and experiences and become an organisation built on mutual respect.
- **Flexibility:** we aspire to be flexible in our thinking and action to become an effective and efficient organisation.
- **Teamwork:** we aspire to work together to share our successes and failures by building on our strengths and supporting one another to achieve our goals.

Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Cymunedau Cynaliadwy a Chryf

Canlyniadau y gweithiwn i'w cyflawni

Neb yn cael ei adael ar ôl

- Gall pobl hŷn fyw bywyd da
- Pobl â mynediad i dai addas a fforddiadwy
- Pobl â mynediad a symudedd da

Pobl yn hyderus, galluog ac yn cymryd rhan

- Camddefnyddio alcohol a chyffuriau ddim yn effeithio ar fywydau pobl
- Teuluoedd yn cael eu cefnogi
- Pobl yn teimlo'n ddiogel

Ein sir yn ffynnu

- Busnes a menter
- Pobl â mynediad i ddysgu ymarferol a hyblyg
- Pobl yn diogelu ac yn cyfoethogi'r amgylchedd

Ein blaenoriaethau

- Ysgolion
- Diogelu pobl agored i niwed
- Cefnogi busnes a chreu swyddi
- Cynnal gwasanaethau sy'n hygyrch yn lleol

Ein gwerthoedd

- **Bod yn agored:** anelwn fod yn agored ac onest i ddatblygu perthnasoedd ymddiriedus
- **Tegwch:** anelwn ddarparu dewis teg, cyfleoedd a phrofiadau a dod yn sefydliad a adeiladwyd ar barch un at y llall.
- **Hyblygrwydd:** anelwn fod yn hyblyg yn ein syniadau a'n gweithredoedd i ddod yn sefydliad effeithlon ac effeithiol.
- **Gwaith tîm:** anelwn gydweithio i rannu ein llwyddiannau a'n methiannau drwy adeiladu ar ein cryfderau a chefnogi ein gilydd i gyflawni ein nodau.

Terms of Reference

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum is the statutory Local Access Forum for Monmouthshire (excluding that part of the county that falls into the Brecon Beacons National Park), as required under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000.

The function of the Forum is to advise the local authority, Natural Resources Wales and others, as to the improvement of public access to land in the area for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area, and to advise and assist with the implementation of the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Membership

Members of the forum are appointed by the “Appointing Authority” (Monmouthshire County Council in accordance with the relevant regulations. The current membership of the forum is as follows:

Mr John Askew

Mrs Patricia Belsten

Mrs Irene Brooke

Mrs Anthea Fairey

Mrs Sheila Hampshire

Ms Elizabeth Hepburn

Ms Gwyneth Jones

Mr Phil Mundell

Mr David Smith

Mr Mark Storey

Mrs Anne Underwood (Deputy Chair)

Cllr Ann Webb (the “Appointing Authority” representative)

Observers;

Representatives from Monmouthshire County Council and Natural Resources Wales

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Local Access Forum held
at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Tuesday, 19th July, 2022 at 2.30
pm

PRESENT: County Councillor Ben Callard
A.Fairey
R. Campbell
S. Hampshire
I.Brooke
S. Lewis
P. Mundell
M. Sweeney
A. Underwood [Chair]

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Keeble	Group Engineer (Highways and Flood Management)
Matthew Lewis (Countryside)	Interim Performance, Evaluation and Programme Development Lead for MonLife
Richard Ray	Paralegal

APOLOGIES:

J. Askew, S. Fowles, M. Storey and S. Tindal

1. Apologies for Absence / Introductions

Apologies were received from members: John Askew, Sylvia Fowles, David Smith and Mark Storey. It was also noted that Ruth Rourke, MCC and Sarah Tindal, NRW have also sent their apologies. **AU** welcomed members to the meeting. Members and observers introduced themselves.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum meeting of 26 April 2022 (Attached).

The minutes of the meeting of 26 April 2022 were accepted (proposed by AU and seconded by IB).

4. Membership update (Secretary)

The secretary explained that following the local elections Cllr Ben Callard had been nominated by the County Council as the appointing authority's representative on the forum. Cllr Callard introduced himself to members.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Local Access Forum held
at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Tuesday, 19th July, 2022 at 2.30
pm**

5. Improvement Sub-Group membership (Secretary)

Following the decision at the April meeting to establish an improvement sub group to help focus the countryside access teams work with communities, including the new community links officer post, nominations had been sought and so far **SL & PM** had expressed an interest. It was noted further members would be required and agreed that terms of reference be drawn up and circulated.

6. Natural Resources Wales updates (Bob Campbell, Senior Officer Land Management, South East Wales Operations)

RC provided an update of NRW's land management and forest operations. A large programme of ash die back management was underway but despite this every effort was being made to keep rights of way available. The exceptionally hot weather had raised the fire alert level to high and so there were concerns about the possible consequences. **RC** explained the contact methods for issues, including unauthorised off-road vehicle activity, and the importance of logging any incidents as this both helps direct responses and provides the intelligence to inform future planning and prioritisation of fire and police responses.

RC referred to some pilot work being undertaken in Caerphilly to help gather better information and assess rights of way furniture on the forest estate. NRW were keen to work with local residents and local groups to explore different ways of future improvements. A new "natural" playground was being procured at Whitestone, in the Wye Valley, and local consultations being undertaken. There are long term aspirations to look at an education shelter and toilets. Finally **RC** provided information on the forest operations programme primarily focussed on managing tree diseases, including of larch and ash die back. It was noted there was some degree of flexibility depending on contracts let.

Members asked several questions, including the funding available to tackle ash die back, the use of timber from felling and replanting. **RC** explained the prioritisation of urgent tree works on a safety basis, likely impact on roads, rail and rights of way. Most timber was being put into the market in the normal way with some retained for biodiversity reasons. Maps were available of felling areas. Replanting varied from a diverse mix, to some commercial softwood replacement, and allowing natural regeneration. The potential impact on access was noted and **RC** reaffirmed that NRW was very conscious of the potential impact of forest operations.

7. Countryside Access Improvement Grant Projects and Update (Report Attached)

The secretary updated the forum on changes, including the welcome appointment to the new Community Links Officer post and the proposals for Welsh Government's Access Improvement Grant. This would form the basis for a three year programme running to 24/25, as set out in the accompanying report to the forum.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Local Access Forum held at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Tuesday, 19th July, 2022 at 2.30 pm

Two funding conditions; the existence of a functioning local access forum and a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) being in place; come into being from 23/24 but in each case Monmouthshire is compliant.

In addition the Wye Valley AONB unit is accessing Welsh Government's Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places grant scheme which can support complementary access projects.

Members supported the proposed schemes, with particular support for the proposal to allocate a budget across each year to support materials for local community volunteer groups.

8. Gwent Regional Access Group update (meeting on 14 July 2022) (Chair & Members)

AU reported on the recent meeting. It was unfortunately poorly attended by non-officers. It was noted that only Monmouthshire and Brecon Beacons National Park currently have an active local access forum and an updated ROWIP. However the opportunities to develop unified standards and share best practice across Gwent were identified. These would be explored as the regional project develops.

9. Dates of future meetings.

The forum agreed that the Secretary will endeavour to arrange the next meeting in October, with a following meeting in Jan 2023. Prior to the next meeting the secretary will co-ordinate any response deemed appropriate to Welsh Government's consultation on the Sustainable Farming Scheme proposals.

AU thanked members for their attendance.

The meeting ended at 4.00 pm

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Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

AGENDA ITEM: 4

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY LINKS: PROGRESS REPORT
MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
DATE: 26 JANUARY 2023

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To update the Forum on progress since the appointment of the Community Links Officer and to propose terms of reference for the improvement sub-group.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 To note progress to date and to approve the terms of reference for the improvement sub-group.

3. BACKGROUND:

- 3.1 As a result of the 22/23 budget process a new permanent Community Links Officer post has been added to the Countryside Access Team. This full-time post was established to enable community volunteering, by leading on working with volunteers, local path care groups, friends groups, community councils and others to help facilitate volunteer and community input to resolving outstanding issues. The aim is to support both practical volunteer and community tasks and facilitate group's independent involvement. To support the role a community links project forms part of the 2022-25 Access Improvement Grant proposals. Tom Arnold started in this post in August 2022 and will provide an update on his work to date.
- 3.2 The 26 April 2022 meeting of the LAF approved the establishment of an improvement sub-group to support working with local communities to identify future improvements and it is now timely to establish that to support the Community Links Officer's work. Draft terms of reference are appended. To date two members have expressed an interest in joining this group, other members are also invited.

4. AUTHOR:

Matthew Lewis
LAF Secretary matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk
01633 644855

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum: Improvement Sub-Group

Draft terms of reference

1. The sub-group is established as a committee of the Local Access Forum in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum.
2. As agreed at the Local Access Forum meeting on 26 April 2022 the improvement sub-group's purpose is to assist in the implementation of the Countryside Access Improvement Plan, including:
 - a. Helping in the identification of routes for improvement
 - b. Assisting in working with local communities to assess these improvement opportunities
 - c. Assist in monitor and identify the benefits of schemes within communities
 - d. Assist in engaging with local path groups, community councils and others to facilitate volunteer engagement in resolving issue
 - e. Assist in formulating funding bids
 - f. Consider and prepare responses on the Local Access Forum's behalf to improvement proposals including consultations under forestry / farming schemes
3. The membership of the sub-group is open to any member of the Local Access Forum and to any other individuals who would assist in the sub-group's work.
4. The appointment of non LAF members to the sub-group will be subject to approval by a simple majority of the full Local Access Forum,
5. Any additional sub-group members who are not Local Access Forum members will nevertheless be expected to adhere to the requirements on Local Access Forum members set out in the approved Terms of Reference for the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum.
6. The Chair of the sub-group will be a LAF member and agreed amongst the group's members and subject to approval by the Local Access Forum's Chair
7. The appointing authority will provide support to the sub-group, primarily through liaison with the Community Links Officer and the Public Rights of Way Officer.
8. The sub-group's Chair will be responsible for recording the group's considerations and reporting progress, and any issues requiring a decision, to the Local Access Forum on a regular basis.

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Local Access Forum

9. The duration of the sub-group is at the discretion of the Local Access Forum and will end at the end of the Local Access Forum's period of appointment. The sub-group may be re-established, and any non LAF members reappointed, by the new Local Access Forum.

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Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

AGENDA ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIP WORKING: GWENT REGIONAL ACCESS STRATEGY

MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

DATE: 26 JANUARY 2023

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To update the Forum on progress of the Gwent Green Grid Partnership (GGGP) regional access strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 To note progress

3. BACKGROUND:

- 3.1 The Gwent Green Grid Partnership (GGGP) is a collaborative project funded through Welsh Government's RDP ENRaW programme developing and delivering a common approach to managing green infrastructure, including the countryside access network, planning, and delivering improvements to support community well-being. It is managed by a collaboration of local authorities, led by Monmouthshire CC, working with Natural Resources Wales and other partners. Further information is available [here](#).
- 3.2 The programme strands include access; to prepare a strategic access plan identifying missing links and areas where improvements are needed in the countryside access network both regionally and locally to enable people to lead active healthy lifestyles, provide economic opportunities and expand, where possible, the network available to cyclists and horse riders.
- 3.3 Following a tender process Lepus Consulting were appointed in November 2022 to prepare a Green Corridors Strategic Access Plan for Gwent. The project objectives are:
 - a. Deliver a strategic access plan for the Gwent region identifying key opportunities and management strategies
 - b. Produce a Green corridors strategic delivery plan and costed projects.The plan is programmed for completion by the end of May 2023
- 3.4 The outputs include the identification of missing links and areas where improvements are needed to access the countryside and green spaces, both regionally and locally to create deliverable action plans, including seeking to identify opportunities for effective collaboration across local authority borders.

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- 3.5 To assist this process a workshop session is planned in February with the Gwent Access Group volunteers to assist in identifying key links across Gwent. Details of the workshop will be circulated shortly.
- 3.6 In addition an invitation to tender will shortly be published for a public rights of way design guide for Gwent. This will update our existing Monmouthshire design guide, adding in additional furniture and including relevant legislation and local policy updates.

4. **AUTHOR:**

Matthew Lewis

LAF Secretary matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk 01633 644855



NRW Access Reform Advice: Briefing Update, December 2022

This briefing note is to update internal and external stakeholders about NRW's work to provide advice to Welsh Government for their Access Reform Programme (ARP).

Summary

NRW is providing support to Welsh Government's ARP through the provision of advice, the development of options for potential reforms to recreational access, including both legislative and non-legislative approaches. Up to March 2023 NRW will focus on the following areas of work: Enforcement of Dogs on Leads and responsible recreation actions and supplementing previously submitted advice, such as for the reviews of open access mapping.

Background

The Access Reform Programme consists of proposals to revise access legislation. Following its 2017 consultation about the reforms, Government grouped the proposals as follows:

- *Group 1* – reform proposals that were considered uncontroversial by stakeholders
- *Group 2* – reform proposals requiring more detailed consideration and advice
- *Group 3* – reform proposals related to access to inland waters (not considered within this briefing)

For 2021/22, Welsh Government has asked NRW to deliver advice about the following Group 1 legislative reforms:

- *Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW Act) open access mapping reviews*
- *Local access forum (LAF) roles and responsibilities*
- *Enforcement of dogs on leads*

And NRW also provided some supplementary advice to Welsh Government about some detailed issues within the Group 2 reform areas.

More about Welsh Government's access reform programme, including the reports produced during 2020/21 by the Access Reform Advisory Group (ARAG), can be found here: [Access Reform Programme | GOV.WALES](#)

For 2022-23 Welsh Government have confirmed they will not be able to proceed with the primary legislation due to a lack of available time during this Senedd term. In the mean-time NRW is taking forward non-legislative recommendations for Welsh Government, in a developing learning and piloting phase of the programme. This years work will focus on two areas of advice: A) Dogs on Leads and B) actions supporting responsible recreation.

A) Enforcement of Dogs on Leads Advice

The 'Advice & Recommendations Paper: Dogs on short fixed-length leads in the vicinity of livestock at all times of year' was submitted to Welsh Government (WG) in March 2022.

Welsh Government's policy intent for this work is for legislative requirements and supporting actions for:

Dogs to be on a short, fixed length lead in the vicinity of livestock at all times of the year. In all other circumstances they will be subject to "effective control", a legally defined term already used in England under Schedule 2 paragraph 6A of the CRow Act. Exceptional circumstances relating to safety and the protection of nature conservation will be identified and guidance provided by the access code.*

[*WG will be considering its preferred way forward for an appropriate access code following on from the ARAG advice.]

The enforcement of dogs on leads in Wales and England is part of legislation currently before the UK parliament. NRW is therefore working to implement a number of non legislative recommendations that will support WG's aims for enforcement of dogs on leads, together with the relevant parts of the UK legislation in Wales:

- Guidance must improve clarity and consistency of messaging across all land with public access and livestock to the general public and to landowners.
- There is an opportunity to utilise a Behavioural Insights (BI) evidence-based approach to identify where and how effective messaging for improved dog control in the countryside around livestock could be implemented. By collaborating with partners such as Natural England this would also expand on Countryside Code BI work already undertaken.
- To improve compliance, on-site signage should be as effective as possible, taking into account BI approaches and evidence, outlining what the requirements are for dog control in the vicinity of livestock and the possible outcomes of incidences.
- Messaging within guidance could outline increased penalties (set out in UK Bill) that would be incurred for dogs worrying and attacking livestock.

Behavioural Insights - Dogs on Leads

The work is to develop a Behavioural Insights (BI) based approach and associated activities to support NRW and WG in promoting responsible recreation with dogs in the countryside across varying types of access. It will identify how best to achieve positive behaviour change to reduce the incidences of livestock worrying (and events of disturbance to other vulnerable wildlife where recreation and conservation co-exist).

A Behavioural Insights approach is based upon three main principles:

1. Non-conscious decision-making processes. Despite a myriad of guidance, best practice, things that we know we should do – we fall back on habits, short cuts,

and ‘work arounds’ with regards to the processes and structures in place to get our jobs done on a day-to-day basis.

2. The setting of our behaviours – the characteristics of our immediate environment greatly influence our actions – the impact of this is that it draws us back into default habitual behaviours.
3. Behaviour, distinct from awareness, attitudes, or intentions. Basically, we frequently fail to act upon good intentions.

Proposals

- Work with NRW’s BI lead specialist to identify approaches to carrying out BI based work and to achieve project proposal outputs. This will include scoping and procuring work to be commissioned externally.
- Carry out a brief in house literature review and analysis to refine the key issues, challenges and opportunities, already obtained through ARP work, to focus further BI intervention work. Other available BI literature within scope will be assessed alongside. This initial work will form the basis for developing a project brief and procurement for trialling selected target behaviour intervention options.
- Work with a commissioned BI supplier to develop an approach for exploring trial and intervention methods that seek to improve behaviours and reduce dog worrying incidents. This would upskill staff and stakeholders in BI approaches relevant to each target behaviour.
- Implement chosen interventions for trial and measure successes or failures of these (after pilot phase). In-turn, this would inform future decision making on the ground and within policy decision making. This would also hopefully add to existing tools for land managers and other stakeholders promoting responsible dog walking.

B) Responsible Recreation

Responsible recreation was a cross-cutting theme relevant across all reform areas. Specific responsible recreation advice was provided as part of the ARAG report for Group 2 access reforms in 2021/22 and was also part of NRW’s considerations within the advice for Group 1 reforms in 2022/23 (and especially those that related to ‘Dogs on Leads’).

Within the ARAG report, the recommendation was made that “WG should fund a national responsible recreation information and education campaign that utilises behavioural insights”¹.

¹ This was mirrored in the Dogs on Leads reform area, of which a proposal for such work has been put forward separately.

Responsible recreation is relevant to all access reforms within the ARP. There has been strong support across sectoral interests for taking forward reform measures that support more responsible recreation.

Additionally, during 2020, concerns arose around Covid-19 lockdown measures and the lifting of restrictions with many more people choosing to access the outdoors. This led to considerable pressure on some sites where outdoor access and recreation is a predominant reason to visit.

For 2022/23 NRW is therefore taking forward a series of projects under the umbrella of the Countryside Code whilst delivering on recommendations made through the ARP to support responsible recreation.

Aims of project proposal

- Develop a strategic approach to promoting responsible recreation across Wales, delivering against WG's ARP objectives and recommendations.
- Influence visitors and users of the countryside to understand and follow the Countryside Code by means of promoting messages to desired target groups.

Responsible Recreation Activities for 2022/23

1. Create a strategic promotion plan including monitoring and evaluation of the reach of the Countryside Code since its refresh in 2021.
2. Seek to work with a bilingual speaking social media influencer to reach younger age groups.
3. Create engaging and captivating social media video content with the aim of again reaching younger age groups.
4. Work in partnership with NE to update the Code's branding guidelines (already in existence and produced by NE) and review the overall digital design of the Countryside Code images.
5. Contribute toward and develop promotional Countryside Code material for face-to-face events, shows and circulation.

Contacts

The main contacts within NRW for this area of work are:

Alison Roberts, Specialist Advisor - Responsible Recreation
alison.roberts@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Richard Thomas, Specialist Advisor - Access Reform
richard.thomas01@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

AGENDA ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME / DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

DATE: 26 JANUARY 2023

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To consider the work programme and meeting timetable for the remainder of this LAFs period of appointment.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 To consider the proposed work programme / meeting schedule

3. BACKGROUND:

- 3.1 The current LAF period of appointment commenced on 24 November 2020 and so will in accordance with the regulations end on 24 November 2023.
- 3.2 The agreed work programme (approved 26 April 2022) and progress is as follows:

Item	Background	Reporting Arrangements	Progress / Plans
Standard Items:			
Countryside Access Improvement Plan (CAIP)	Progress in implementing the approved CAIP	Regular report	See Delivery Plan – summary report April 23
Performance Measures	MonLife Delivery Plan performance measures of CAMS issues	Regular report	See Delivery Plan – summary report April 23
Funding	Progress on and opportunities for external funded & MCC capital funded countryside access projects programmes	Regular report	CAIP bid reported to LAF April 22
Consultations	Consultations to the LAF on relevant matters as required	Report to LAF	Sustainable Farming Scheme response Nov 22 As required
Natural Resource Wales	Update on forestry operations and access related issues	Regular report	Standing Agenda Item

Monmouthshire

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(NRW) updates			
Working Groups:			
Improvement subgroup (Proposed)	To be established to support working with local communities to identify future improvements	Regular report	TOR LAF 26 Jan 23
Wentwood subgroup (Proposed)	To seek to re-establish liaison arrangements in respect of Wentwood (with forestry managers and Newport CC)	Report as required	Discussions underway with key stakeholders to re-establish a Wentwood group
Gwent Access Group	To participate in the regional access group	Report as required	Group met July 22; Consultants appointed Nov 22 and workshop planned Feb 23
Work Programme Items			
Definitive Map Modification Order (DDMO) Claims	To review the number of claims and their prioritisation	Report to future meeting	Report to Oct 23 meeting
Welsh Government Access Reform	To receive any updates on progress on the access reforms	Report as required	Updates as received
Wye Valley Unclassified County Roads (UCRs)	To consider the development of an inclusive user-strategy for all lower Wye unclassified county roads and related countryside access network	Report to future meeting	Project Plan / Brief under preparation by AONB: Planned report to LAF April 23
Forest Resource Plans	To participate in the consultation on Natural Resource Wales (NRW) Wye Valley South Forest Resource Plan	Report to future meeting	Potential consultees identified Programme tbc

3.3 Based on this the suggested programme for future meetings and core topics (in addition to regular updates including from sub-groups) is as follows:

April 2023

- Wye Valley Recreational Access Strategy

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

- Progress in 22/23 and 23/24 delivery plans
- 2022/23 Annual Report

July 2023

- Gwent Green Corridors Strategic Access Plan
- Recruitment Process for next LAF period

October 2023

- Progress and monitoring reports

- 3.4 To attempt to avoid a significant gap between meetings the recruitment and appointment process for the new LAF will commence in Summer 2023.

A draft timetable being:

- Advertisement / Notices July / August with September deadline
- Report to Council 26 October 2023 (provisional date)
- Panel interviews as necessary Nov / Dec
- Appointments completed Dec 2023 / Jan 2024
- First meeting January 2024

4. **AUTHOR:**

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