

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

AGENDA ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: UPDATE REPORT

MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

DATE: 27 SEPTEMBER 2016

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 To provide an update to the Local Access Forum on key issues.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 For the Forum's consideration and information.

3. BACKGROUND:

3.1 An update is provided on the following:

a) Proposed M4 Corridor Scheme

Following the detailed representations made on the scheme in relation to public rights of way a response has now been received from Welsh Government on the remaining matters. In addition we have now completed a detailed assessment of the draft order plans and some additional points requiring clarification or more information have been identified.

Many of these are matters of detail which will only be resolved at a further design stage should the scheme proceed. Where appropriate we will seek an entry in the register of environmental commitments to ensure these are considered in consultation as the scheme progresses.

Finally Welsh Government have published some further proposed changes to the scheme (and related changes to the Draft Orders and Environment Statement) which require a response by 18 October 2016. This information is available on deposit at either County Hall Usk, or Innovation House, Magor.

The additional information, which is extensive, is still being digested but we will hope to provide an update of key issues at the meeting.

b) Performance Measures

As agreed at our last meeting an analysis has been completed of the higher priority issues, currently available for Q1 2016/17. This information is appended.

c) Funding

The current funding position relating to countryside access is as follows:

MCC Capital Programme: Principally directed to 9m+ bridge replacement, installation of 7 kit bridges; survey of structures and additional bridges on order. £39,568 slippage + £38,091 = £77,659.

External grants approved and works underway.

Coastal Access Improvement - Maintenance: Cutting contract completed and surfacing projects underway including Black Rock which is completed. Monitoring report secured to March 2017 and counter repairs completed. £8,975 against eligible costs of £11,966

Coastal Access Improvement - Projects: Sudbrook Fort improvement project (to find an acceptable design for the path crossing the Scheduled Ancient Monument) due to be commenced soon. Maximum of £5,000.

RoWIP Grant: Making good progress on projects include re-signposting / new furniture Three Castles Walk; drainage and surfacing at Catbrook; resurfacing path in Raglan; boardwalk at Ty Draw; extending Wye Valley Walk paving at Old Station Tintern; surfacing at St Brides Magor and Rogiet. An assessment to contribute to the RoWIP of disabled access / low use groups is about to commence. £41,304.

National Trails Grant: On target for full spend. Brief out on Cagle Street bridge survey; two cutting programmes complete. Improvements at Kings Wood & Llanvihangel Ystern Llewern Church. £10,525 against eligible costs of £12,700.

Bid made but results not known:

Access Improvements in the Wye Valley AONB: 16/17 Bid developed and submitted with the Wye Valley AONB concentrated on the Wye Valley Walk and replacement of fingerposts. Indications are this may become an annual programme and will need the development of a partnership based programme for future year's bids. Potentially 40 - 60K (Competitive bid).

Under development:

Living Levels Landscape Partnership Scheme; the development phase is proceeding and includes the identification of access and interpretation projects for the stage 2 bid to Heritage Lottery Fund. Peter Coles and Associates are developing the Destination Management element which includes access proposals.

d) Active Travel

The finalised existing route maps are available on the Council's website: <http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/home/streets-parking-and-transport/transport-and-travel/active-travel-act>.

Consultations are now planned on the improvement mapping. An initial consultation is underway over the proposal for the Abergavenny / Llanfoist footbridge, see <http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/abergavenny-llanfoist-bridge-proposal>. Comments are required by 30 September 2016.

e) Mon Lane Care Scheme

An update on current progress will be provided by Paul Keeble, Highways Network Manager at the meeting

f) Natural Resources Wales

Juliet Michael, Partnerships Officer - Access, Recreation & Funding, Natural Resources Wales will provide an update on current issue at the meeting

g) LAF Conference - 19th October 2016 RWAS Showground, Builth Wells.

This year there will be an opportunity for up to four attendees from each LAF to attend: The Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary together with one other Forum member are invited to attend. NRW suggest that where LAFs may have or be about to be disbanded, or not established at the time of the conference, LAFs secretaries are also invited and up to three representatives who are likely to form part of the new LAF. Views on appropriate representation are invited.

4. AUTHOR:

Matthew Lewis
LAF Secretary

matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk 01633 644855

Appendix 1: Performance Management Information Update

Appendix 1: Performance Management Information Update

Indicator	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2014/15	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17 Q1	Context/ Comment
Resolved ROW enforcement issues in year	142	115	117	18	
Unresolved ROW enforcement issues	971	1173	1185	1209	
Percentage of ROW enforcements issues resolved (cumulative)	54.65	50.98	53.01	52.85	
Resolved ROW maintenance issues in year	590	321	306	26	
Unresolved ROW maintenance issues	2393	2607	2878	2965	
Percentage of ROW maintenance issues resolved (cumulative)	66.02	65.58	64.70	64.13	
High priority (1) resolved ROW enforcement issues in year	-	-	30	4	Note 1: New measure: prioritisation score 100 or more – NB percentage is not comparable to old indicator
High priority unresolved ROW enforcement issues	-	-	140	152	As above
Percentage of high priority ROW enforcements issues resolved (cumulative)	-	-	47.17	45.91	As above
High priority resolved and part resolved ROW maintenance issues in year	-	-	108	9	As above
High priority unresolved ROW maintenance issues	-	-	267	290	As above
Percentage of high priority ROW maintenance issues resolved (cumulative)	-	-	69.38	67.32	As above