

North Yorkshire Local Access Forum**25 July 2018****Secretary's Update Report****Report of the Secretary****1.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To update members of the Local Access Forum on developments since the last meeting of the LAF.

2.0 UpdateConsultation submissions and responses

- 2.1 Since the last meeting in April, the LAF has submitted formal comments in response to following consultations:
- Natural England Easington to Filey Brigg Coastal Access report
 - Transport for the North Strategic Plan Consultation
 - Malton to Pickering Cycleway design consultation
 - Harrogate Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule
 - A19 Trunk Road (Tontine, Northallerton) (Prohibition of U-Turn and Use of Gap in the Central Reservation) Order 2018
 - A59 Kex Gill preferred proposed alignment consultation
- 2.2 A response was received in relation to the A19 consultation and the LAF has been asked to confirm whether the response satisfies the Forum's concerns about alternative provision and future engagement. Appendix 1 provides details of the LAF's submission and the response from Highways England for members' consideration.

Local Development Plans

- 2.3 One of the key areas of involvement for the Forum is to ensure appropriate engagement in the preparation of Local Development Plans. A number of items have been included on recent agendas. Set out below is a brief summary of the current position in relation to each District Council area, and in relation to the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan. This information is taken from the websites of the relevant authorities and correspondence received.

Authority	Status
Craven	The Draft Plan was submitted on 27 March 2018 for public examination by the independent inspector.
Hambleton	The next stage of consultation will be the Publication Local Plan. This is now expected in autumn 2018
Harrogate	It is expected that the draft plan will be submitted for public examination by the independent inspector in summer 2018 and that the public examination will take place in winter 2018 prior to adoption of the plan in spring 2019.
Richmondshire	Consultation on Local Plan Issues/Preferred Approach is due in September 2018
Ryedale	The Local Plan Sites document and policies map was submitted on 29 March 2018 for public examination by the independent inspector. The inspection is scheduled for 25 September – 4 October. More details are available at http://www.ryedaleplan.org.uk/local-plan-sites/submission-and-forthcoming-examination
Scarborough	Scarborough Borough Council formally adopted the Scarborough Borough Local Plan on 3 July 2017.
Selby	Consultation on the Submission Draft of the Site Allocations Local Plan is expected to be approved on 6 September 2018.
Minerals and Waste Joint Plan	The Public Examination took place in March/April 2018. On 5 July 2018 a Select Committee report was published relating to Planning Guidance on Fracking which needs to be taken into consideration by the minerals and waste joint plan. The Inspector has invited those who participated in recent examination hearings to comment on the select committee report and its implications for the joint plan.

- 2.4 Where indicative consultation dates are provided, these have been incorporated into the Forum's forward plan as provisional items of business.
- 2.5 It is possible that one or more of consultations may take place before the next scheduled meeting of the Local Access Forum. In the event that there are any consultations where the closing date is before the next meeting of the LAF on 17 October 2018, it is suggested that the LAF authorises the relevant district council liaison representative to lead in preparing a draft response in conjunction with the Chair and Secretary. The draft response would then be circulated by email for

comment to all LAF members before being finalised for formal submission to meet the deadline.

- 2.6 A review of the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan for the period 2019-2024 is due for public and stakeholder consultation between 1 October and 15 November 2019. Members' views are sought as to whether they wish to include this as an agenda item for the October meeting of the Forum.

Regional Forum

- 2.6 The next meeting of the Yorkshire Humber and North Lincolnshire Regional LAF is provisionally due to take place in Wakefield on Wednesday 26 September 2018.

NYLAF Webpage

- 2.7 The Chair has taken over the preparation of the webpage and has agreed a list of contents with the Secretary.

Open Access Restrictions

- 2.8 The Forum is consulted on a range of restrictions under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. There have been no new notifications received from the Open Access Contact Centre at Natural England confirming restrictions since the last meeting.
- 2.9 The Forum has received 11 notifications of discretionary open access restrictions since the last meeting. Following a query at the last meeting, it was clarified that landowners may close their access land for up to 28 days in any one year. They are not permitted to close their land on (a) bank holidays, (b) more than 4 days in a year that are Saturdays or Sundays, (c) any Saturday between 1 June and 11 August, (d) any Sunday between 1 June and 30 September. Landowners are not obliged to tell the public about forthcoming closures, or give reasons. Their legal duty is simply to inform the relevant authority of their intentions.

Rights of Way: Restoring the Record

- 2.10 Natural England sent a copy of the second edition of the book Rights of Way: Restoring the Record by Sarah Bucks and Phil Wadey to each LAF in December 2017. This is available from the Secretary for any LAF member to borrow if they wish.

3.0 LAF Recruitment

- 3.1 Current LAF members' terms of office come to an end on 3 November 2018. The County Council will run a recruitment campaign and appointment process between August and October in order that the new

membership is in place on time. All existing LAF members are eligible to apply for re-appointment.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 That the Local Access Forum notes the update report.
- 4.2 That members confirm a response to Highways England with regard to the A19 gap closure.
- 4.3 That the relevant District Council liaison representative be authorised to work with the Chair and Secretary of the Forum to prepare a draft response on behalf of the LAF to any relevant consultations with a closing date before the next meeting of the LAF on 17 October 2018. This would then be circulated for consultation by the Secretary and a formal LAF response submitted by the Secretary to meet the deadlines for each consultation.
- 4.4 That Members consider whether to include the Howardian Hills AONB Management Plan Review on the Forum's agenda for the next meeting in October.

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Background Documents: None

The A19 Trunk Road (Tontine, Northallerton) (Prohibition of U-Turn and Use of Gap in the Central Reservation) Order 2018

The following response was formally submitted on behalf of the LAF on 6 June 2018. This was after the deadline for responses on 1 June 2018.

LAF consultation submission

The North Yorkshire LAF wishes to object to the above closure because of the failure to provide an alternative means of access.

The effect of the order is to prevent access to and from Stony Lane to the South bound Access to the A19. The LAF are not challenging the merit of closing the gap but objecting to the failure to provide any alternative route for non-motorised users. LAF are requesting that an alternative is provided in line with policy on accessibility.

We consider that the review of barriers over the A19 should be looked at holistically and plans made for logical replacement links, and the LAF would gladly engage in this process.

Highways England response

As you mentioned in your response, you did fall outside the consultation phase and so we cannot treat this as a formal objection. However, Highways England looks to work in collaboration with all parties that use our network to meet their reasonable requirements, where technically and economically feasible. So whilst we will continue with the gap closure we would like to address the concerns of the LAF if possible.

As you say, there is no direct crossing for pedestrians at Stony Lane, so a reasonable alternative is for pedestrians and equestrians to go down the northbound verge and cross through the Mount Grace gap.

For cyclists, they turn left and take a detour around the Tontine interchange, which would add 1.4 miles to their journey (7 mins for a typical cyclist). But in all likelihood their journey would have originated some distance away and a reasonable alternative would be to travel along the local road between East Harlsey to the gap opposite Somerset House (Ingleby Arncliffe South), which would add 0.4 mile to the journey (2 mins for a typical cyclist). Or use the junction at Lane End/A684.

I hope that this response satisfies the concerns of the Forum as to the alternative provisions at this location. We would be grateful if you could provide a response to confirm whether this is the case. If this does not satisfy the concerns of the Forum we would like to understand what would.

Looking forward to any potential improvements, we will engage earlier in the process with the LAF and listen to the observations and concerns that may be raised to incorporate them into our proposals where technically and economically possible.