

New Forest Access Forum (*paper 36/1*)

Officer's Report (Marilyn Meeks)

This paper covers:

- Common Agricultural Policy reforms in England consultation
- Paths for Communities
- Defra's access newsletter
- Letter to LAF Chairs from Dan Rogerson MP
- Sharing Towpath's
- Public Forest Estate
- Coastal Access

Common Agricultural Policy reforms in England consultation

Defra has published its summary of responses and government responses to the CAP consultation (December 2013). Four LAFs, including HCAF, were specifically mentioned (para 4.9, pg29) as seeking the retention of rights of way 'cross compliance' by landowners in receipt of Single Farm Payments:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/267987/cap-reform-sum-resp-201312.pdf

Paths for Communities

Newsletter is attached (this is a national funding stream, now closed but gives examples of successful projects for information)

Defra's access newsletter

Defra's access newsletter is also attached, including a link to what other LAF's have been doing

Sharing Towpaths

For information there has been a consultation on towpath use for the Canal and River Trust.

Interest is relation to multi-user path behaviour

<http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/about-us/consultations/completed-consultations>

Public Forest Estate consultation

This is to shape a pilot project in the East of England which will eventually inform their approach elsewhere, not directly relevant to us yet

https://englandconsult.forestry.gov.uk/forest-districts/stakeholder-engagement-in-the-public-forest-estate/consult_view

Coastal Access

Natural England currently working on 15 sections of Coastal Path of those 3 sections are now open in Dorset, Hartlepool and Cumbria with a further section to be opened in Norfolk this year. A further two sections will be presented to the Secretary of State later this year for signing. To date 1,300 miles is being consulted on or at the stage of walking the coarse.