



Peak District Local Access Forum

On: Wednesday 1 November 2023

At: Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

Agenda

Start: 10.00 am

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|----|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | Welcome & Apologies | Mike Rhodes |
| 2 | Minutes from the last meeting of 14th June 2023 | Mike Rhodes |
| 3 | Matters Arising from last meeting not covered by the agenda. | Louise Hawson |
| 4 | Presentation by The Ramblers on research into the demographics of Rights of Way use | |
| 5 | The Role of a Footpath Secretary | Martin Bennett |
| 6 | The NPA approach to ROW Management following organisational change | Andy Farmer |
| 7 | Derbyshire CC RoWIP Update | Gill Millward |
| 8 | Access Update | Sue Smith |
| 9 | Green Lanes update | Sue Smith |
| 10 | Members' fReports | |
| 11 | Any Other Business | Mike Rhodes |
| 12 | Date and venue of next meeting - Wednesday 21st February 2024 | Mike Rhodes |

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Peak District Local Access Forum

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 14 June 2023
in the Board Room at Aldern House, Bakewell**

Members Present:

Louise Hawson (Chair)	Jez Kenyon
Mike Rhodes (Secretary)	Geoff Nickolds
Charlotte Gilbert	Paul Richardson
Austin Knott	John Towe
Ben Seal	Charlotte Leech
Dave Savage	Craig Best
Richard Entwistle	Gill Millward (DCC)
Clare Griffin	Martin Bennett
Sue Smith (PDNPA)	

Minutes:

1

Welcome and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Nick Doran, Cllr Susan Hobson, Alastair Harvey and Cllr Andrew McCloy. Mike Rhodes advised that today's meeting would have been Andrew McCloy's final LAF meeting, as he has now stepped down as Chair of the Peak District National Park Authority, and will no longer be an Authority member. The group thanked Andrew McCloy for his services to the Peak District LAF. Jo Holliday is no longer a member of the Forum.

2

Minutes of the meeting on 15th March 2023

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 15th March 2023 were approved as a correct record.

3

Matters Arising from last meeting

PDNPA TRANSPORT SYMPOSIUM

It was agreed at this event that a new post of a Sustainable Transport Officer would be created. The person appointed would be invited to the next LAF meeting.

ENVIRONMENT LAND MANAGEMENT SCHEMES (ELMS) UPDATE

Charlotte Gilbert gave an update to Members to the effect that the government had reviewed the payments to upland farmers, which had

previously been proposed to be set at a lower rate to lowland farmers. Upland and lowland farmers will now receive payments at the same rate.

ACCESS TO WATER

Ben Seal to update the Forum later in the meeting.

NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN (NPMP)

Chief Executive, Phil Mulligan, has sent a confirmation letter that the NPMP is now into the delivery stage. Charlotte Gilbert has sat on the NPMP review board for a while, but would now aim to pass that work on, and asked for any LAF member that might be interested in picking this up to come forward.

CAR PARKING CHARGES

After Authority Members agreed the increase to car parking charges on 3 February 2023, the scheme is now with Derbyshire County Council. The increased rates and introduction of new Pay and Display machines is set for the end of summer 2023.

LANDSCAPE RECOVERY ROUND 2

Louise thought it would be useful to be kept up to date with any Landscape Recovery funded schemes that Forum members were involved in. Craig Best advised that a plan would be submitted imminently for the whole of the High Peak National Trust estate.

Martin Bennett referred to the NPMP Aim 2 regarding nature depletion, with the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report stating that there is a likelihood of 1.5 °C increase in global temperatures.

4

Proposed Changes to LAF Meetings (including update on PDNPA organisational change)

Mike Rhodes advised the Forum that there had already been some adjustments to the running of LAF meetings in that there had been a reduction to 3 meetings a year, with the next meeting scheduled on Wednesday 1 November. The proposed organisational changes would mean that PDNPA support for the LAF would be reduced, including less support from Democratic Services who currently provide much of the administrative work. It was important to keep the momentum of the LAF work going. Communication between meetings would be ongoing.

There followed a discussion between LAF members as to the best way to do this as a group who don't have access to a shared network, with input on how this is done with other groups and organisations.

Jez Kenyon wanted to ensure that the purpose of the LAF was clearly set out in order to underline its importance as a statutory advisor. WhatsApp allows for easy group discussion and enables sharing of documents, either by referring to the current published documents on the website or as email

attachments. As all key information is published, WhatsApp's main function would be to continue group discussion, with reference to relevant documents. There would be no need to set up a separate platform for LAF members to access discussion details and documents, and therefore no requirement to set everybody up with logins and passwords.

Charlotte Gilbert emphasised the importance of the LAF working as a group. It has facilitated useful discussion amongst Forum members, which needs to continue with full agendas and presentation of information. More sub groups and different structures for topic discussion could be considered, along with ad hoc follow up meetings and site visits.

Louise Hawson flagged an issue with having longer intervals between meetings around consultation deadlines being missed by full group meetings. Any solutions to keeping the Forum in discussion between full meetings should be kept simple.

Further discussion was had around different platforms that could be used by the group, including some input from PDNPA Web Manager, David Higley, attending in a personal role with his involvement outside work in digital marketing, and also as part of an access community group in his local area. He advised that a dedicated domain on the PDNPA website could be set up with members accessing through a login and password.

There was some debate on using a group discussion platform versus continuing to use email to circulate documents and information, plus what would be confidential at discussion stage as opposed to public information.

Sue Smith advised that Natural England is looking at how it can support Local Access Forums.

It was agreed to look into solutions for keeping LAF discussions moving between full meetings.

Speaker – Sue Woods – Green Lane Alliance

The National Park Management Plan (2023-28) sets out aims and objectives for natural beauty, assisting nature recovery, tranquillity and reducing carbon emissions, and any actions on Green Lanes needs to be consistent with these objectives. Enjoyment, protection and access have to be balanced against each other. There is no Green Lane Action Plan for the year ahead. Neither is there a report on last year's plan, so the public can't assess the effectiveness of how well the PDNPA is doing to look after Green Lanes. Will the work on Green Lanes be discontinued and will the LAF be happy with that? Sue Woods stated that if the work is to stop, then the LAF should ask for a detailed Rights of Way programme for the coming year, which states where Green Lane work sits within that plan.

Louise Hawson thanked Sue Woods for her contribution, and said the points raised would be picked up in Item 6 - Access Update.

Themed Topic – Access For All

An update was given on DEFRA Access for all funding by Sue Smith, PDNPA Access and Rights of Way Officer.

In November 2022, the Peak District National Park Authority received £131k of capital funding for infrastructure improvements to make Protected Landscapes more accessible for people of all ages and abilities and from all socio-economic backgrounds, to make them what Glover called, 'places for everyone.' No funding is available in Year 2 (this current year) of the programme. Further funding will be received in Year 3, anticipated to be £158k.

The Year 1 funding was required to be spent by the end of March 2023. This was met by developing facilities at key locations, improving online information, creating and enhancing Miles without Stiles routes, and increasing the number of people participating to meet the Authority's ambition. The [Programme and Resources Committee Report](#) of 28 April 2023 sets out the details of that delivery.

Sue advised the Forum on how to make a destination an accessible place. In the Peak District, Accessible Castleton has been developed as a template for accessibility. This builds on the provision of accessible routes by working with businesses to compile a catalogue of information, producing a visitor guide for the visitor centre, providing a sensory story and itineraries, and, in conjunction with Visit Peak District & Derbyshire, providing accessibility training for businesses.

There followed a video by Gillian Scotsford, Director of AccessibleUK. Gillian set out how and why AccessibleUK was set up, and their aim to make it as easy as possible for any person or group with disabilities to get out and about. Availability of information about destinations is very important, even if the advice is that there are access limitations to that site. Awareness and training of people providing services at these locations is also important.

John Towe expanded on this by giving a presentation based on an individual case study of someone with acquired disability which means they have mobility problems as well as underlying health conditions. The presentation highlighted that people of all abilities want to be as independent as possible, and there can often be quite simple solutions to make access for all easier. John pointed out that many people with any sort of disability or additional needs don't get past the planning stage for their visit. Detailed, accurate information about the destination is vital, along with how they are going to make their journey, with good customer service along the way. The person represented in the presentation was a hillwalker, canoeist, skier and guider before they became a wheelchair user, and with

the right information, facilities and support, there is no reason that this person shouldn't be able to keep participating in these activities.

The Forum warmly welcomed John's detailed presentation.

Louise Hawson picked up on how important it is for organisations to provide all relevant information so that people can plan properly.

David Higley advised of his involvement with Accessible Belper, and how some of the momentum on accessibility was lost during Covid. Some areas are better than others on this issue, now is the time to try and get the momentum back at scale by raising awareness with businesses and the hospitality sector.

Sue Smith outlined that some of the Year 1 DEFRA Access funding had been used to identify what information is useful for visitors, and how and where to make that information available. This will help support local businesses to think about what they can do to improve access.

Clare Griffin pointed out that anyone could acquire a disability at any stage in their lives and added that it was recognised in the health service that access to nature delivered better outcomes for patients. She raised a question about what the Year 3 DEFRA money was to be spent on. Sue Smith stated that plans were being drawn up to build on the Year 1 work, including working with partners. Some of the plans could be costly, and match funding may be required. The LAF is key in looking at accessibility.

Geoff Nickolds raised a point about the possible closure of visitor centres in places such as Castleton. This was part of efficiencies being proposed by the PDNPA. Geoff wanted to clarify whether this was purely based on money saving, or were other factors being considered when looking at the value of visitor centres, such as the role they play in providing information about accessibility in the Peak District. Sarah Wilks, PDNPA Head of Engagement, was present for this part of the discussion. She updated the Forum that there had been a PDNPA press release on 6 June 2023 stating that an external donor support of funding for up to 3 years had been offered. The proposals for the closure of the Visitor Centres was on hold for a period of time while the funding was secured, and plans drawn up.

Louise mentioned the improvements that had been made at the bottom of the Long Causeway at Stanage. Hopefully the work would continue to the top of the track, but already it had improved access to Stanage Pole. Louise went on to mention access to North Lees estate more generally, commenting that making sites accessible needed to be balanced with retaining the element of wilderness. Sue Smith advised about the accessible camping pods and facilities at North Lees. More widely, the PDNPA Rights of Way Team is working with DCC to look at connectivity and to identify routes that can be linked.

Jez Kenyon raised a point about the digital side of planning for a trip or journey, in that people will have a wide range of ability. Technology may be an important feature of access for all, but maybe some market research is needed to find out what the best way is of making information available.

Martin Bennett pointed out how important it is to install and maintain infrastructure to assist people to access all facilities and areas as fully as possible, including outside of normal business hours.

There was a concluding comment from John Towe, who stated in his experience individuals will adapt to their surroundings. They just want to be out and about. Information is shared amongst the disabled community, to help others make progress.

6

Access Update

Silence Mine Direction

Following the consultation, Sue Smith confirmed the extension of the restriction of open access at this site through to April 2025. She thanked the LAF for its response to the consultation, and confirmed that there would be continued monitoring of the instability of the land in and around the mine, as well as consideration of the impacts of the restriction on the adjacent highway and the Restricted Byway/ public footpath that run across the site. The PDNPA will continue to liaise with DCC on this matter.

Green Lanes

Over the last year there has been a comprehensive scheme of maintenance of routes, including a number of Green Lanes. There will be further details about this under agenda item 7, but Staffordshire County Council has also been involved in a programme of repairs. This has improved accessibility generally and the 2022-2023 Action Plans are in place until the end of 2023. The work on Green Lanes has been incorporated into the Recreation Hub work with an update being provided to the next LAF meeting. Sue reported on the results of the latest ease of use survey on rights of way within the National Park, with a score of 82% of routes being found to be easy to use. An update was given about the Access Fund, which is used to improve access and accessibility in the National Park. Money comes in from donations via the PDNP Foundation and from sales of the Miles Without Stiles Guidebook. Yorkshire Water's sponsorship has enabled a reprint of the Miles Without Stiles Guidebook.

Charlotte Gilbert queried progress on Swan Rake and Limers Rake at Hollinsclough, as she is involved in putting together a Heritage Lottery bid which will be used to make bridleway improvements at Washgate. Works have been done on the Derbyshire side and they want to replicate that on the Staffordshire side. It would be good to know when Swan and Limers Rakes are going to re-open, as they link into the network around that area. Charlotte wanted to know what measures would be in place to ensure

further damage doesn't occur on the Rakes, for example, is Staffordshire CC likely to confirm the route as a bridleway.

Sue Smith stated that she didn't have a specific update for Swan and Limers Rakes, but emphasised that the maintenance scheme was comprehensive and that work was ongoing, and at significant cost. Louise asked if the Forum could raise the issue with Staffordshire CC. John Towe mentioned that bridle gates aren't good for wheelchair users, to which Charlotte advised that the design of the gates was being looked at. Austin Knott updated the group that the works on Swan and Limers Rakes had been paused, but had started again recently, with the aim of completing in the autumn.

Jez Kenyon, on the subject of Miles without Stiles, said quite a lot of stiles aren't very user friendly. Sue Smith added that, as an example, Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) was only providing funding for gates rather than stiles.

It was agreed that the LAF would write to Staffordshire CC to ask for an update on repairs to Swan and Limer Rakes, and the overall Green Lanes maintenance programme.

7

Derbyshire Rights of Way Maintenance Programme

Rob Greatorex, Team Leader of the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) team at Derbyshire County Council, made a presentation to the LAF.

Rob outlined the organisational structure of the Highways Directorate and the make up of the PRoW team that sits within the Highways Maintenance section of Network Planning. DCC's PRoW team manages and maintains the Public Rights of Way network throughout Derbyshire, ensuring the successful delivery of the Council's duties, responsibilities and priorities as Highway Authority. It was currently a responsive service to enquiries raised by members of the public, landowners, stakeholders etc

The team looked after 4,497 km of Public Footpaths; 612 km of Public Bridleways; 69.8km of Restricted Byways and 59 km of Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATS). Rob presented some figures to demonstrate the volume of work that the team deals with. Out of the 5,371 enquiries received in 2022/23, 4,670 (87%) are closed, leaving 701 (13%) outstanding.

During 2023/24, surface vegetation clearance will be undertaken on 662 selected paths across the county. Rob also referred to the role of Town and Parish Councils in carrying out maintenance on any footpath or bridleway within the parish or community. Of the 204 Derbyshire parish/town councils, 156 are signed up to the Minor Maintenance scheme and in 2022/23, 61 parish/town councils participated in the scheme.

In 2022/23, the PRow team improved the surface of 8.1 miles of public rights of way, renewed or installed 1,043 roadside fingerposts, waymarked 202 routes and completed 240 minor rights of way schemes, as well as more major projects funded from the Highways Capital Programme.

The Highways Service is moving towards a mixed economy operational model and all service areas, including PRow will be looked at. The new working model to be implemented by March 2024.

Clare Griffin congratulated Rob and DCC's PRow team on the volume of work they undertook given that they are a small team. Martin Bennett added that the 5,238 km of rights of way that DCC is responsible for are pretty well looked after. Charlotte Gilbert gave an example of reporting a footpath problem to DCC's PRow team through the public reporting system, where the path was closed within 3 hours of it being reported, and that the report was fully followed up. Austin Knott commented that the experience with Staffordshire Highways was not so good compared to DCC, who are very responsive.

Louise wondered if there were ways to try and involve groups, such as recreational users and parish councils, to build up support for RoW work. Rob Greatorex advised that a volunteer officer had previously played a role in PRow work at DCC, but that post had been lost due to cuts. Also the PRow team had now been moved into the Highways Division from the Countryside Service. Volunteers don't tend to be an operational part of Highways, but volunteer involvement with maintenance work on rights of way should be looked at as it can help stop routes deteriorating. DCC's Countryside Service want to set up a volunteer co-ordinator role, and the PRow team could use volunteers through a Service Level Agreement. Rob directs people who make enquiries about volunteering to contact town and parish councils.

Mike Rhodes advised the Forum that the PDNPA has volunteers who carry out conservation work, including path maintenance. Jez wondered if the PRow team could secure time with Countryside Rangers in order to involve volunteers with maintenance work. Martin Bennett acknowledged that volunteer involvement is good, but that it takes resources to manage and co-ordinate.

Charlotte advised on the Peak District LAF Sub-Group which met with DCC Rights of Way on 18 May 2023. The Sub-Group went through the schemes of work completed by DCC and Louise thanked them for that work. There was good representation on the sub-group of different users – including cyclists, horse riders and walkers, and the meeting was very useful. Louise said that one of the issues that did come up in that meeting was about vegetation control. Rob Greatorex advised that clearance work was kept to a minimum and was done for safety reasons and to keep access points clear. Louise asked about drainage work around rights of way and if farmers assisted with this work. Rob responded that his team works with the Flood Risk team at DCC and that landowners and farmers could be encouraged to

do more. Jez suggested that farmers used paths as drainage in some cases, and this can alter and widen routes. Rob referred to legislation regarding managing flood risk in relation to rights of way. Louise wondered if routes have been identified to prioritise issues re flooding and drainage.

Rob will report back later in 2023/early 2024 on the Highways Service review.

Louise mentioned that the Ease of Use survey will be discussed at a future meeting with Andy Farmer (PDNPA).

8

Derbyshire CC RoWIP Update

Gill Millward presented a report on the progress towards the delivery of Derbyshire's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Gill reported that DCC had been successful in securing just over £3 million from Active Travel England (Tranche 4), and this was going to Cabinet the following day for approval to accept the grant. £2.73 million was awarded to fund the construction of a multi-user Greenway between the National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 54 Millennium Cycleway at Duffield Road in Little Eaton and Rawson Green in Kilburn as part of a longer route eventually connecting Ripley into Derby City. The remaining amount of £275k will fund further development and feasibility work to help progress connecting the White Peak Loop from the end of the Monsal Trail at Topley Pike into and across Buxton Town Centre to Harpur Hill.

Other work is on-going in relation to the Via Gellia (A5012) safer road scheme, and Gill thanked Martin Bennett for providing comments on that scheme. The work should improve not just road safety, but also the safety of footpath users on routes that come into that area.

Charlotte Gilbert reported on the work on Unrecorded Ways which will now extend for a further 5 years until 1 January 2031. This would add to the bottleneck of Definitive Map Modification Orders, but was still the best way to bring about bridleway network improvements. DCC is dealing with these Orders on a first come, first served basis. There are over 300 waiting to be reviewed and maybe there needs to be a way of prioritising how the updating work is done. Work is continuing on the Pennine Bridleway.

Charlotte asked for an update on the experimental Traffic Regulation Order consultation at Bamford Clough. Rob Greatorex advised that he had a draft paper to look at in order for it to go to the Cabinet Member to make a decision, which would be made this year.

Charlotte asked for an update on Pindale. Rob confirmed that remedial works were required, but would need to check with colleagues exactly where things were up to currently.

Martin referred back to the discussion on Via Gellia as he was there over at the weekend and advised that one way is lethal on the Middleton footpath. He also stated that the involvement of Active Travel was good, but cycling needs pushing at scale and pace.

9

Members' Reports

Ben picked up an earlier agenda item relating to Access to Water and the Right to Roam. There has been a recent Access to Nature debate in the Commons. The shadow Environment Minister has advised that Labour will introduce a new Right to Roam Bill looking at wild camping in National Parks and extending access to woodlands and waterways. The current default is to exclude people. The shift with this Bill will be to a default of giving access. The Conservatives won't bring a further Access Bill before Parliament, although Therese Coffey, Secretary of State for the Environment, has announced an access to Green Space initiative, whereby everyone should be able to access green space within 15 minutes' walk from home. There is no detail about this as yet. If there was a shift to open up access to the public then it is worth thinking what that guidance would look like, and what input stakeholders, including the National Park, would like to have. Under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, there was a mention of amending Local Authority's duty to provide health and wellbeing opportunities for their residents, but Ben wasn't sure if this was being actioned by government.

Louise commented that if the assumption was to open up access, LAFs will become more important. Ben added that opening up access further can be a benefit for wildlife as it means that channelling everyone into small areas is less likely.

Dave Savage told the Forum about developing a running and walking challenge, the Wild Peak Rounds, starting and finishing in Bakewell and will be organised through the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and would hopefully generate donations. The plan is for 3 routes – 15km, 50km and 115 km – that will link Wildlife Trust sites. There will be no set routes or times, and all will take place on Public Rights of Way. Participants will be given proof of completion, and routes will be signposted by discs on way markers. Clare thought not having time limits was a good idea and commented that we don't need more merchandising. Paul Richardson also thought this was a good idea and should generate a lot of interest.

10

Any Other Business

The group discussed the extension plans at Upper Derwent which are expected to be submitted by Severn Trent Water in July. Louise advised that PDNPA has a holding objection to the proposal. STW has offered to attend the LAF meeting after the submission is made.

The Kinder and High Peak Access Advisory Committee is having a meeting on 30 July to discuss the proposals and invites will be sent out to stakeholders. The Council for the Protection of Rural England and Friends of the Peak District are co-ordinating a coalition of concerns.

Austin Knott pointed out that the STW proposals will impact across the whole of the Peak District, not just the Upper Derwent Valley, including the pipeline network that will be required to connect reservoirs.

Paul Richardson praised Staffordshire CC on the consultation work they are doing at Hollinsclough, where there are large mounds of aggregate at the start of some of the trails, but there are no updates on the website. He asked if anyone at the Forum knew about this. Austin said this had been discussed previously relating to Swan and Limers Rakes.

Martin Bennett referred to Authority Members training on subjects such as RoW, Access Land and the Definitive map, and wondered if LAF members could attend sessions. Being supplied with a list of Policy documents to be aware of would also be useful.

Louise said maybe some of these ideas could be circulated on email and wondered if LAF members could gain access to the Volunteer System to sign up for training.

Geoff Nickolds, on the Severn Trent Upper Derwent proposals, referred back to when Carsington Reservoir was built. Seven sites were proposed originally, and he wondered why they opted for the site that now forms Carsington, and rejected the other sites.

9

Date and venue of next meeting

The date for the next meeting of the LAF will be on Wednesday 1 November 2023 at Aldern House, Bakewell.

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Ramblers research on the public rights of way network

Jack Cornish
Head of Paths



Paths team - what we

do

Responding to threats and changes to the network

- Support for thousands of volunteers
- Statutory consultee

Improvement & maintenance

- 150 path maintenance teams
- Path Accessibility Fund

Expanding the network

- Don't Lose Your Way & user evidence

Advice & casework

- Public advice service
- Training, guidance and support
- Legal action

Champion

- Research to make the case for the network



Why research?

- Part of a long-term vision and workplan (but not just for the Ramblers) - “A path network that is open for everyone to enjoy and where paths connect people and places across Britain”
- Understand value of public rights of way – case for investment, support and legislation - in critical national infrastructure.
- Enables targeting of work by the Ramblers and others



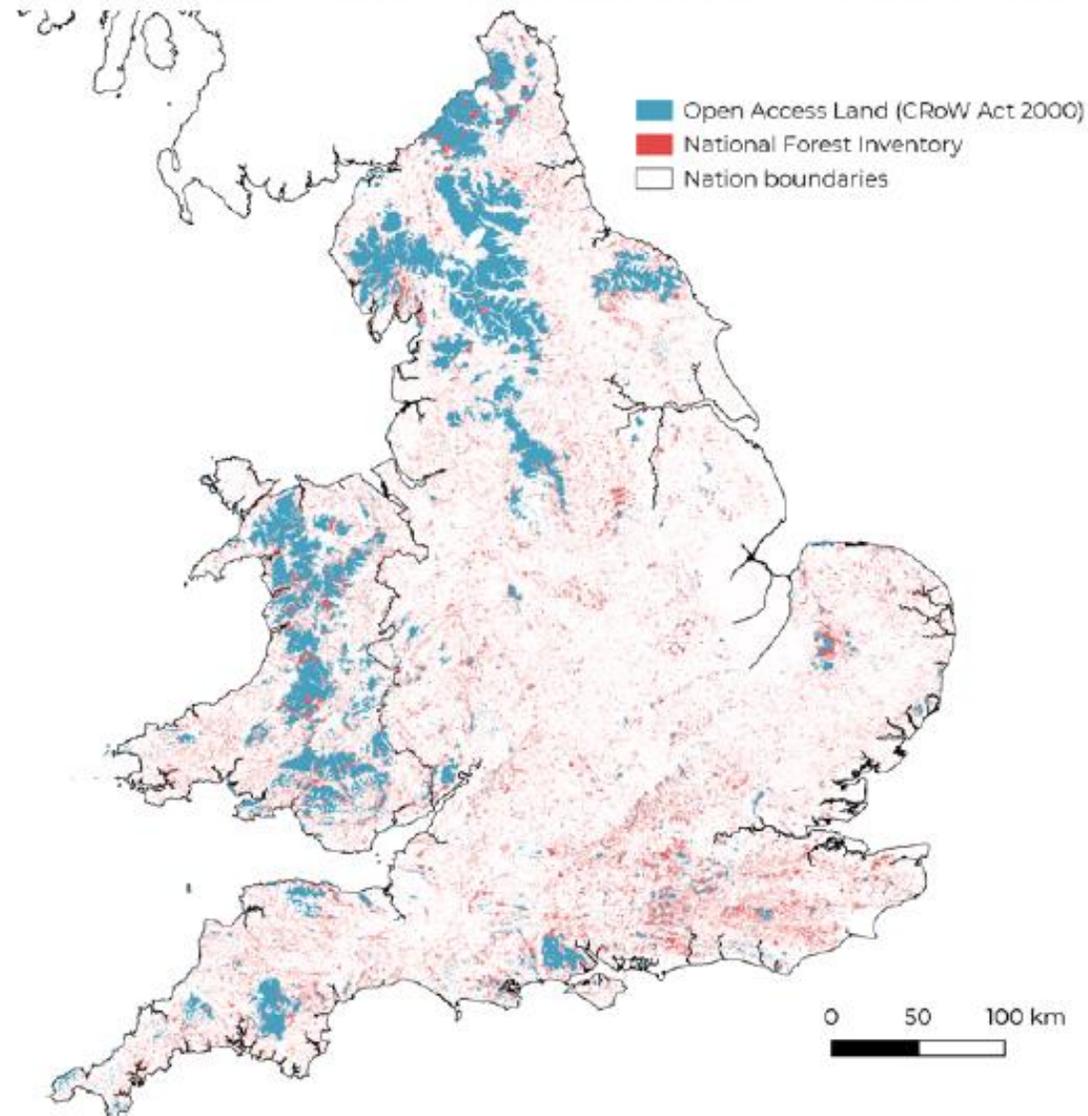


Collecting data

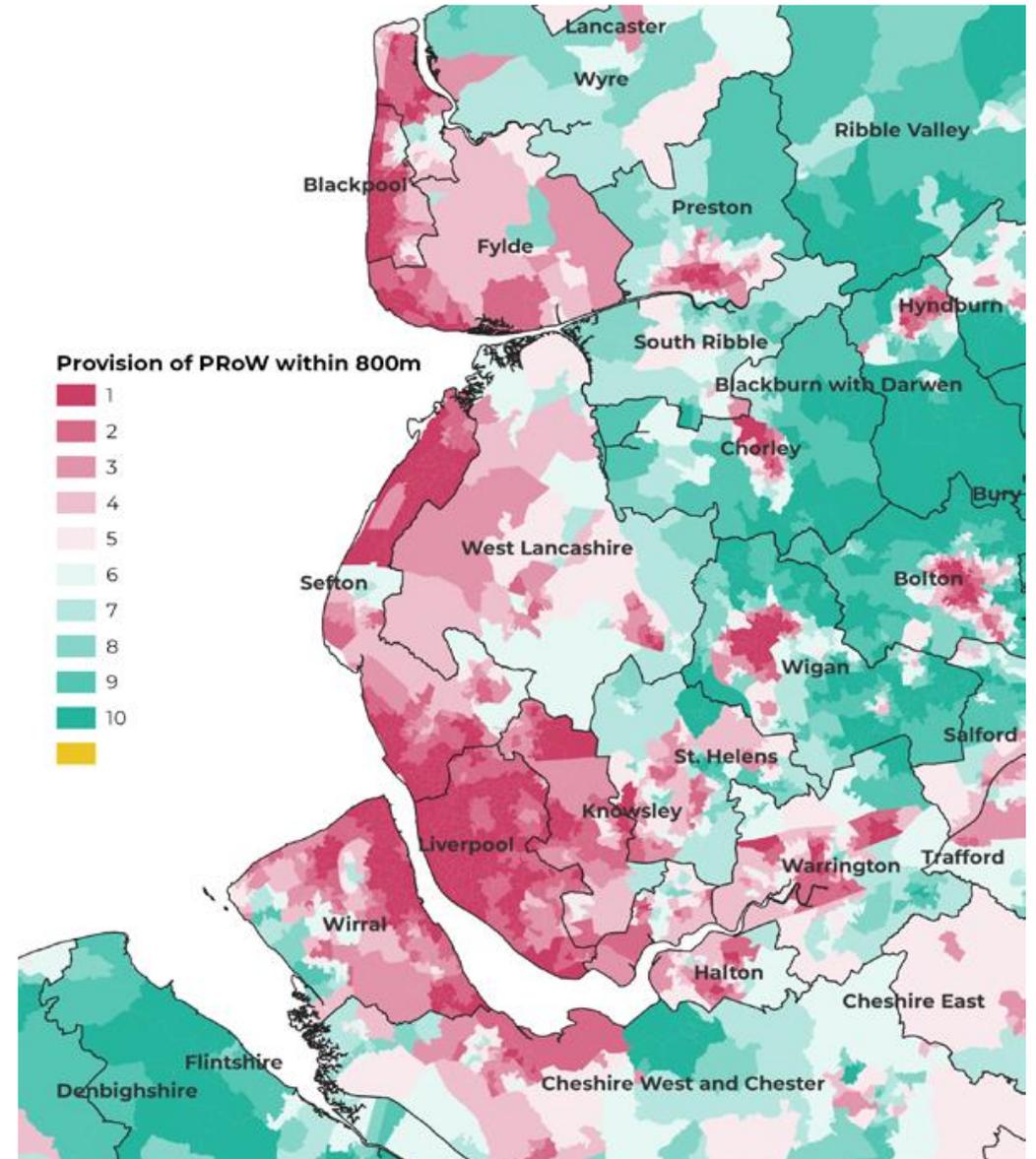
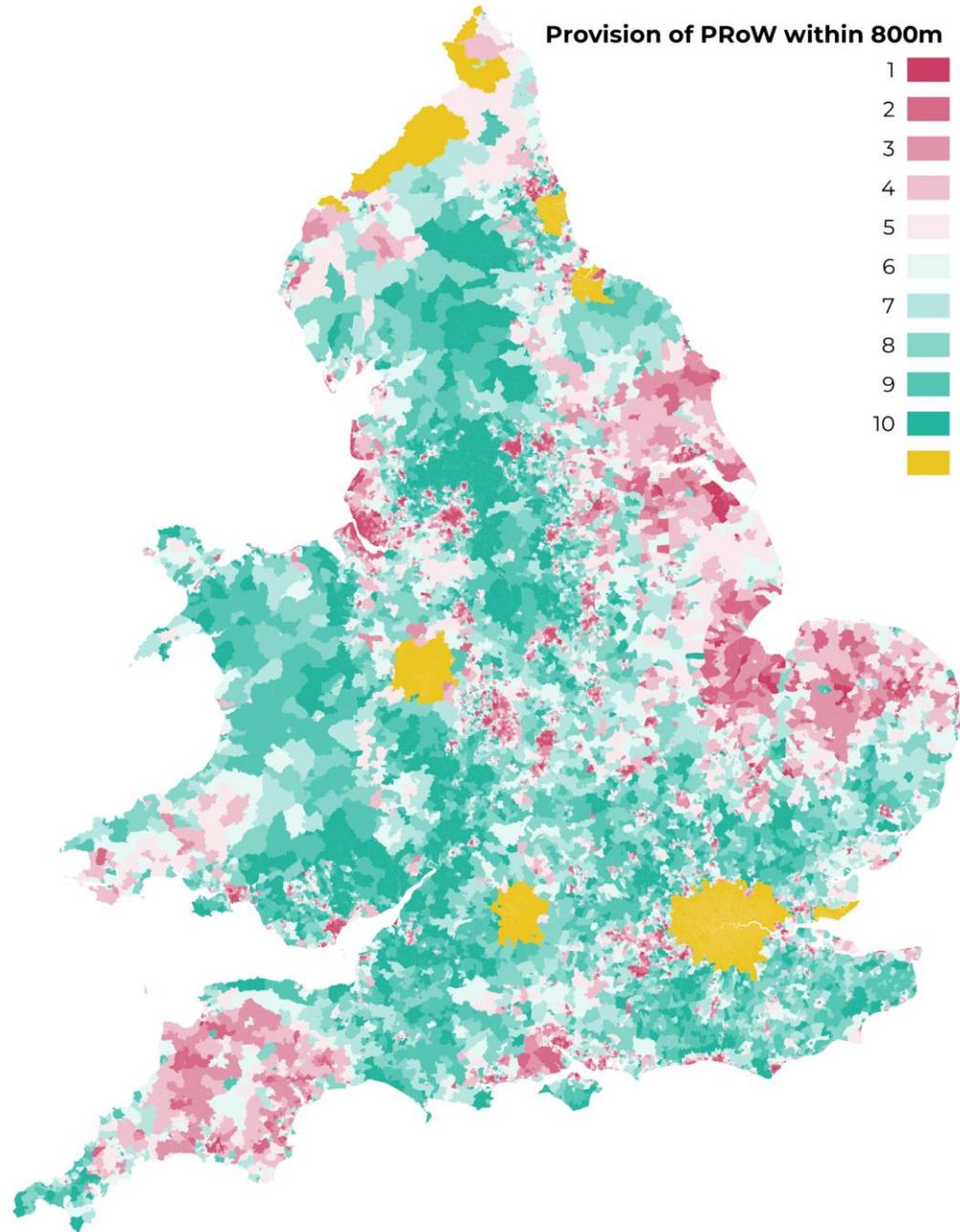
- **Collected path data for 98.5% of the land surface of England and Wales**
- **Demographic data:** deprivation, age, ethnicity, income, heart-attacks, mental health, age of homes
- **Looked at neighbourhoods (every 1,500–2,500 people)**
- **Landscape data:** satellite data on greenness, nature reserves, National Parks, rural/urban, rivers/reservoirs, access land

Ecotype	Description and source	England and Wales length (km)	England and Wales proportion	England length (km)	England proportion	Wales length (km)	Wales proportion
Agricultural	PRoW located within all agricultural land classes in the Defra framework.	197,708	88.59%	168,179	90.60%	29,530	80.62%
Woodland	Length of PRoW located within all classes of woodland in the Forestry Commission inventory.	30,116	13.49%				
Greenbelt	All PRoW located within greenbelt land as classified by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.			31,975	17.23%		
Urban fringe	All PRoW located within 1km of the boundary of urban land as classified by Defra.	32,454	14.54%				
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	All PRoW located within an AONB as classified by Defra.	33,964	15.22%	31,550	17.00%	2,414	6.59%
National parks	All PRoW located within a national park as classified by Defra.	24,382	10.92%	17,867	9.63%	6,515	17.79%
Local nature	All PRoW located	1,370	0.60%	1,252	0.67%	78	0.21%

MAP 7: OPEN ACCESS LAND AND WOODLAND (NATIONAL FOREST INVENTORY) IN ENGLAND AND WALES



Source: Natural England and DEFRA



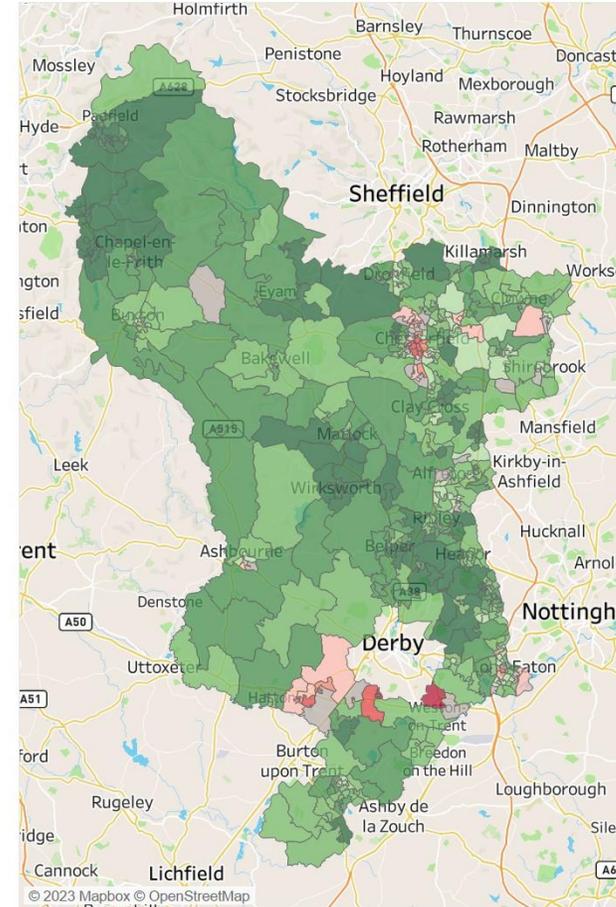
PRoW = Public Right of Way (public paths)



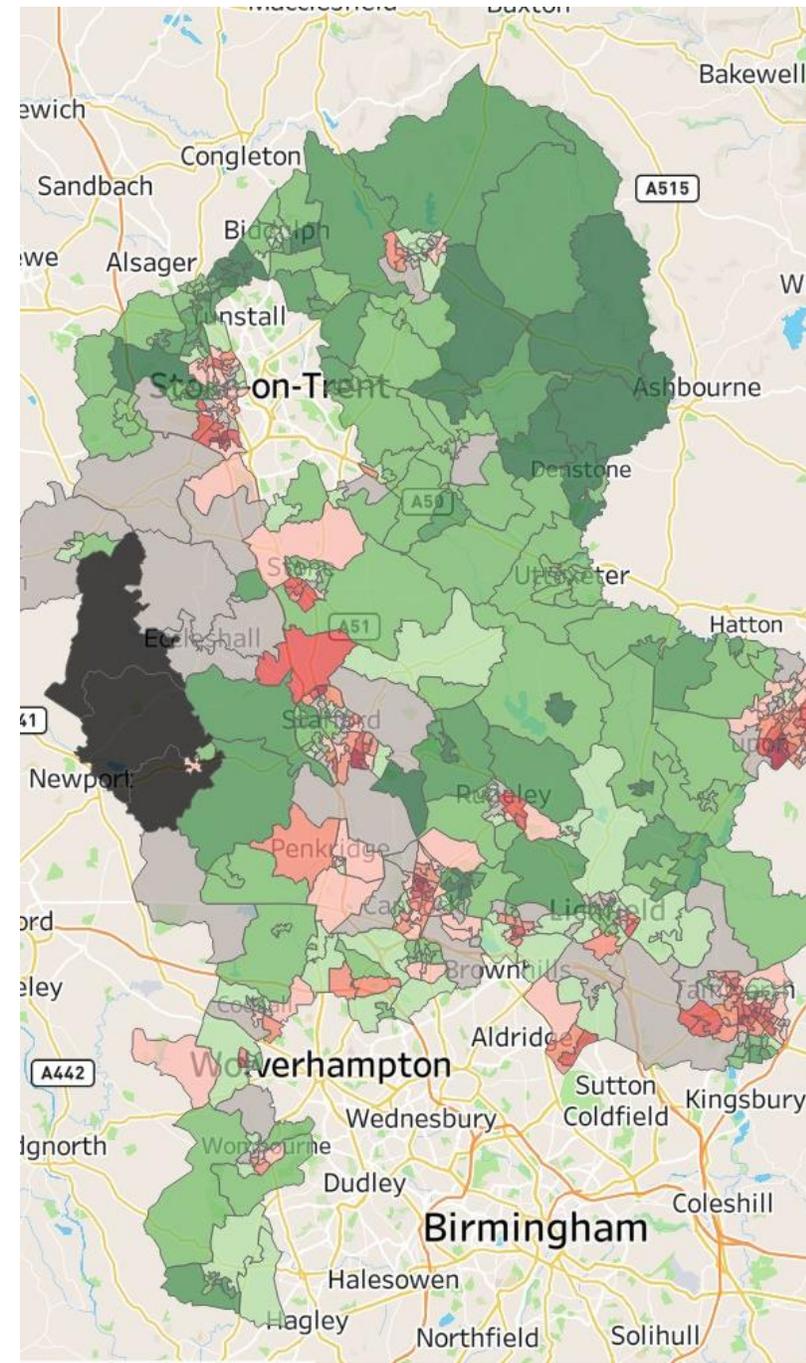
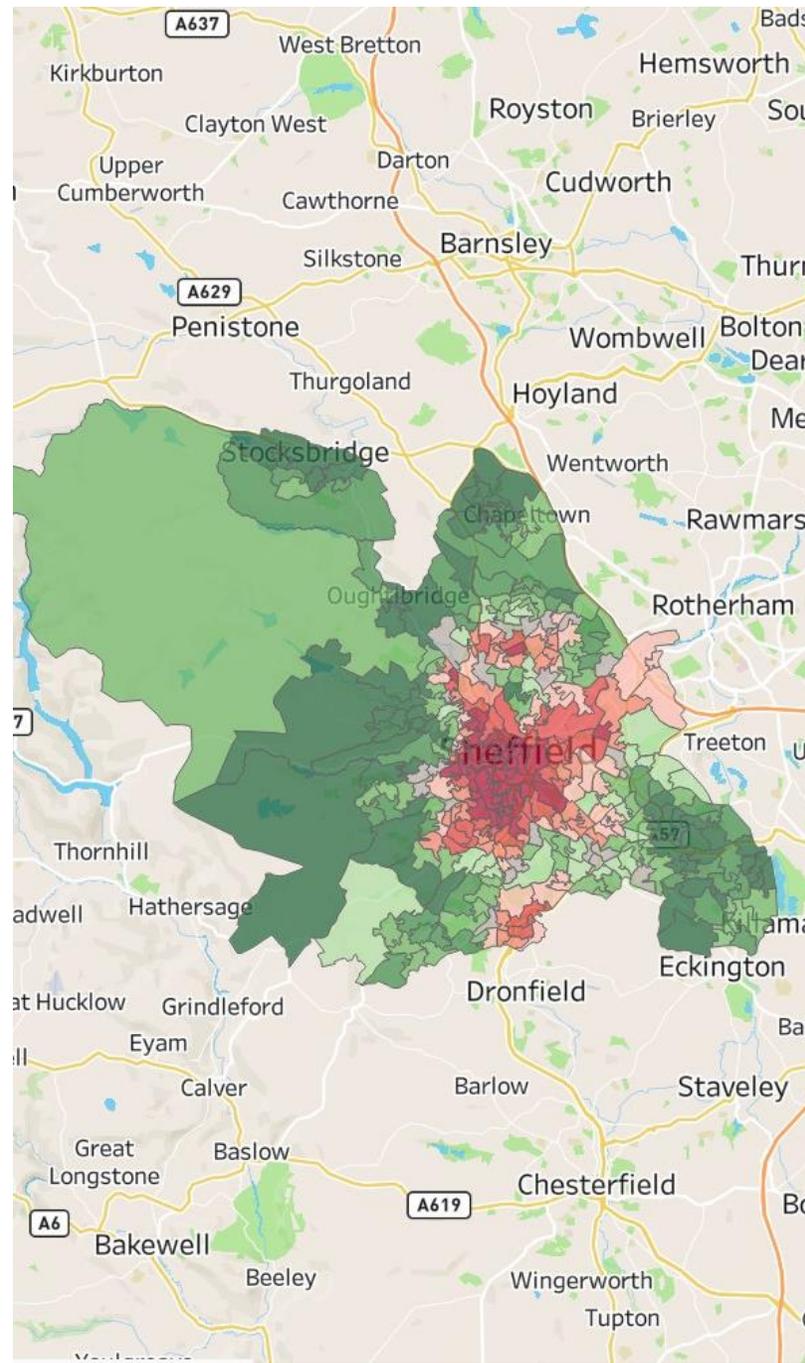
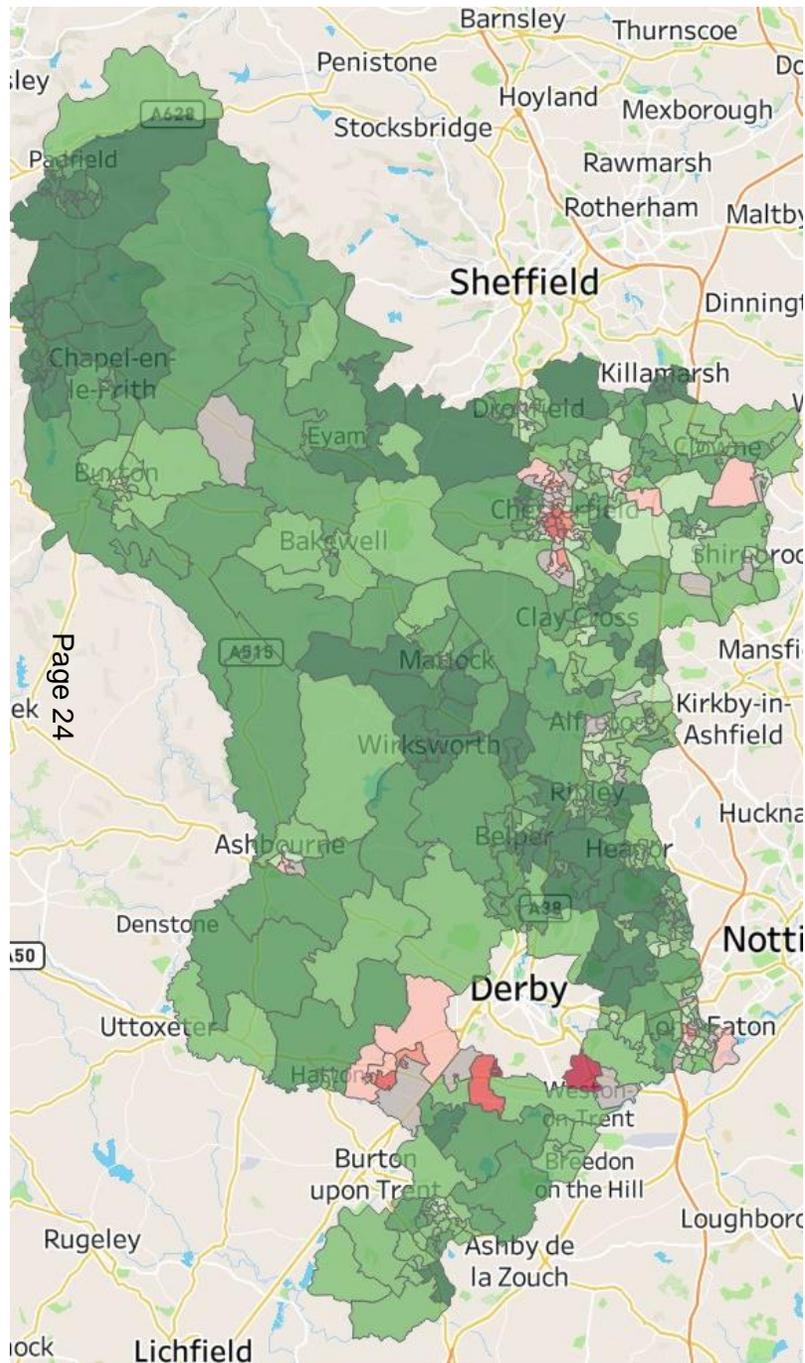
Highway Authority: **Derbyshire**

Highway Authority Choice	Nation Choice	Derbyshire	England and Wales Average	Difference from Average
Derbyshire	All			
The length of public right of way within a ten minute walk (800m)		4,420	2,788	1,632
The length of public right of way within a twenty minute walk (1600m)		18,189	11,396	6,793
Sum of length of continuous right of way over 3km long intersecting buffer within a ten minute walk (800m)		326,010	254,753	71,257
Sum of length of continuous right of way over 3km long intersecting buffer within a twenty minute walk (1600m)		444,665	340,160	104,505
Distance to nearest ROW of 3km continuous length		125	257	-132
Green right of way length within a ten minute walk (800m) - England only		4,083	2,455	1,628
Green right of way length within a twenty minute walk (1600m) - England only		16,473	9,758	6,715
Percentage right of way which is green within a ten minute walk (800m) - England only		78.84%	71.29%	7.55%
Percentage right of way which is green within a twenty minute walk (1600m) - England only		83.84%	77.31%	6.53%
Length of right of way with greenness of over 80% within a ten minute walk (800m)		5,245	3,530	1,715
Length of right of way with greenness of over 80% within a twenty minute walk (1600m)		19,746	12,663	7,083
Length of right of way within/next to a Natural England nature rich zone		2,811	3,217	-406
Distance to nearest access land of at least 5 hectares in size and with at least one public right of way connection		5,958	4,585	1,373
Distance to nearest access land of at least 5 hectares in size, including woodland, and with at least one public right of way connection		695	1,152	-457
The length of public right of way within a ten minute walk (800m) including lost rights of way		5,175	3,854	1,321
The length of lost public right of way within a ten minute walk (800m)		755	1,065	-310
Percentage of public right of way which is lost within a ten minute walk (800m)		15.84%	31.29%	-15.45%

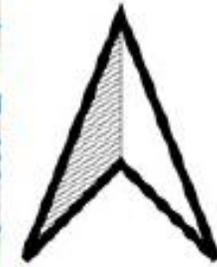
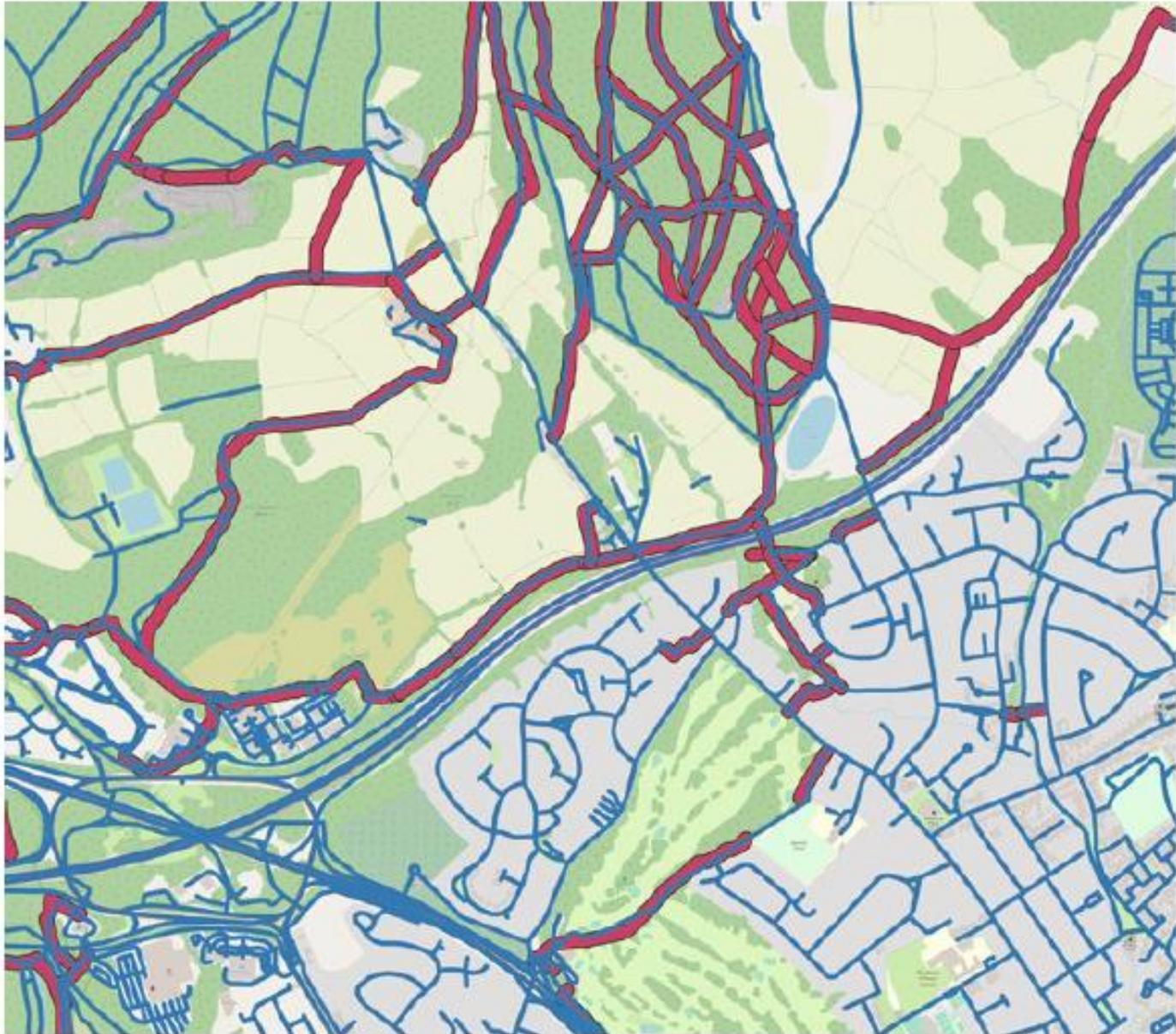
The length of public right of way within a ten minute walk (800m)



Green is good provision, Red is bad provision and Black means the information is not publicly available



MAP 7: PROW PROVISION AND STRAVA ROUTES IN NORTH CARDIFF



0 250 500 m



- Strava routes
- PROW buffer 15m

OpenStreetMap

What have we found out?

Our analysis shows that the value of the PRow network is:

£1.8bn per year, or £32.20 per person per year in England

£109m per year, or £35.30 per person per year in Wales.

Our analysis suggests that:

Doubling the average local neighbourhood provision of PRow could lead to a 6.2% increase in people visiting green space every week. While this may sound low, this would equate to an additional 78.5 million annual visits to greenspace each year.

What we found out...

83% of people agree that
the path network is a
national asset

85% of people agree
that
the path network should
be protected for future
generations

Only half of all people surveyed know (some of) their rights and responsibilities when out walking on the path network

Almost a third of all respondents told us
one of the main reasons they don't go
out walking on the path network is
because
they don't know where paths are or
where they go

What we found out...

'Physical barriers stop me from using
the path network'

24% of people in England

28% of people in Wales

22% of people in Scotland

56% of people registered physically
disabled



What comes next?

- Looking at using **more of the Strava data**
- Targeting our work (nationally and locally)
- Provision (and usage) is by no means the whole picture – **quality, condition & accessibility**
- Making the case for our paths – **Access to Nature bill**

"There was nowhere to go but everywhere."
Jack Kerouac



Derbyshire Dales Group Ramblers
Peak District Local Access forum
1st November 2023

Martin Bennett
Group Footpath Secretary &
Access Officer

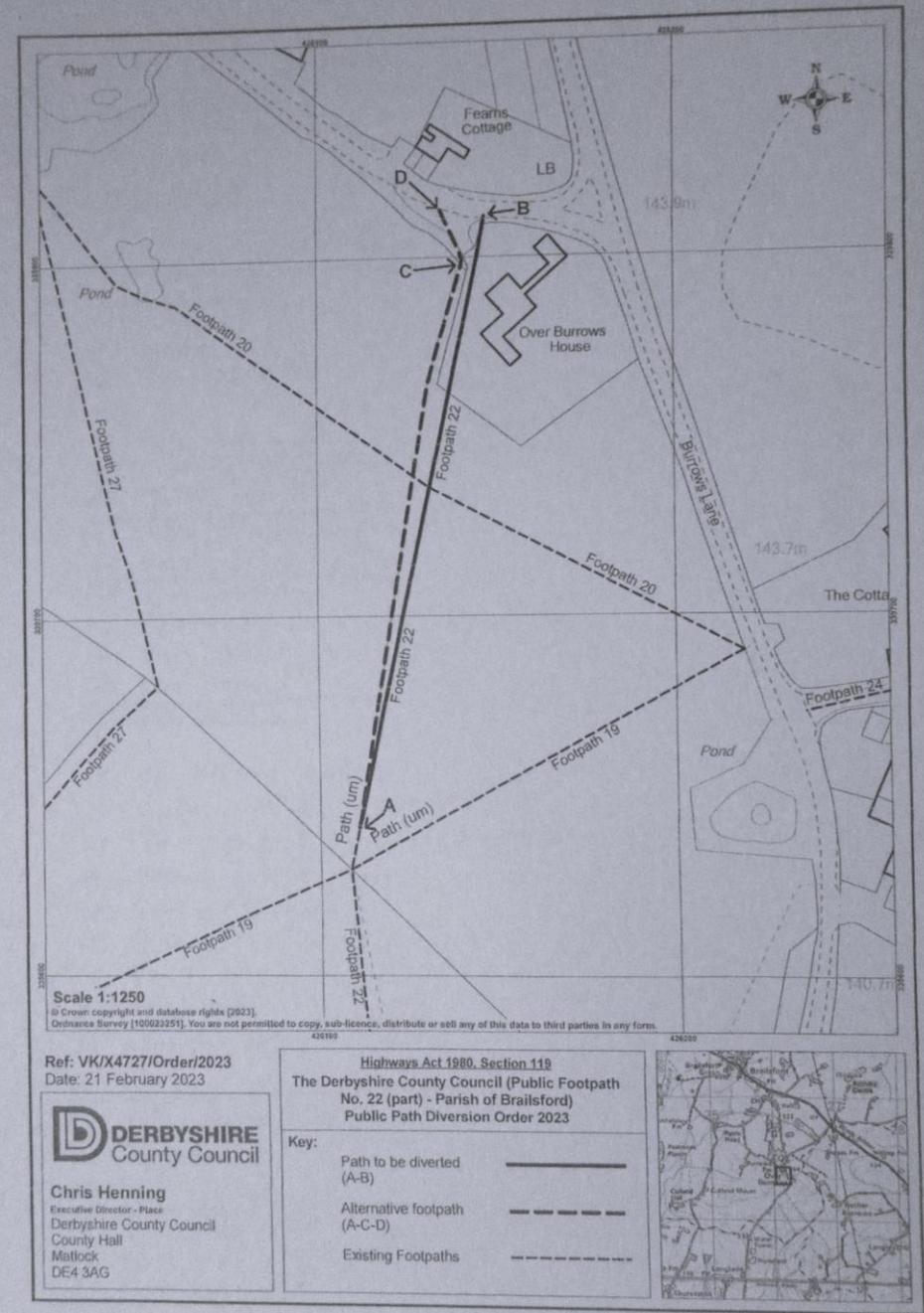


- First steps
- Inspiration
- Network of paths - a unique national asset
- OS
- Benefits – physical health, mental health, well-being, nature, sustainable travel
- Free!

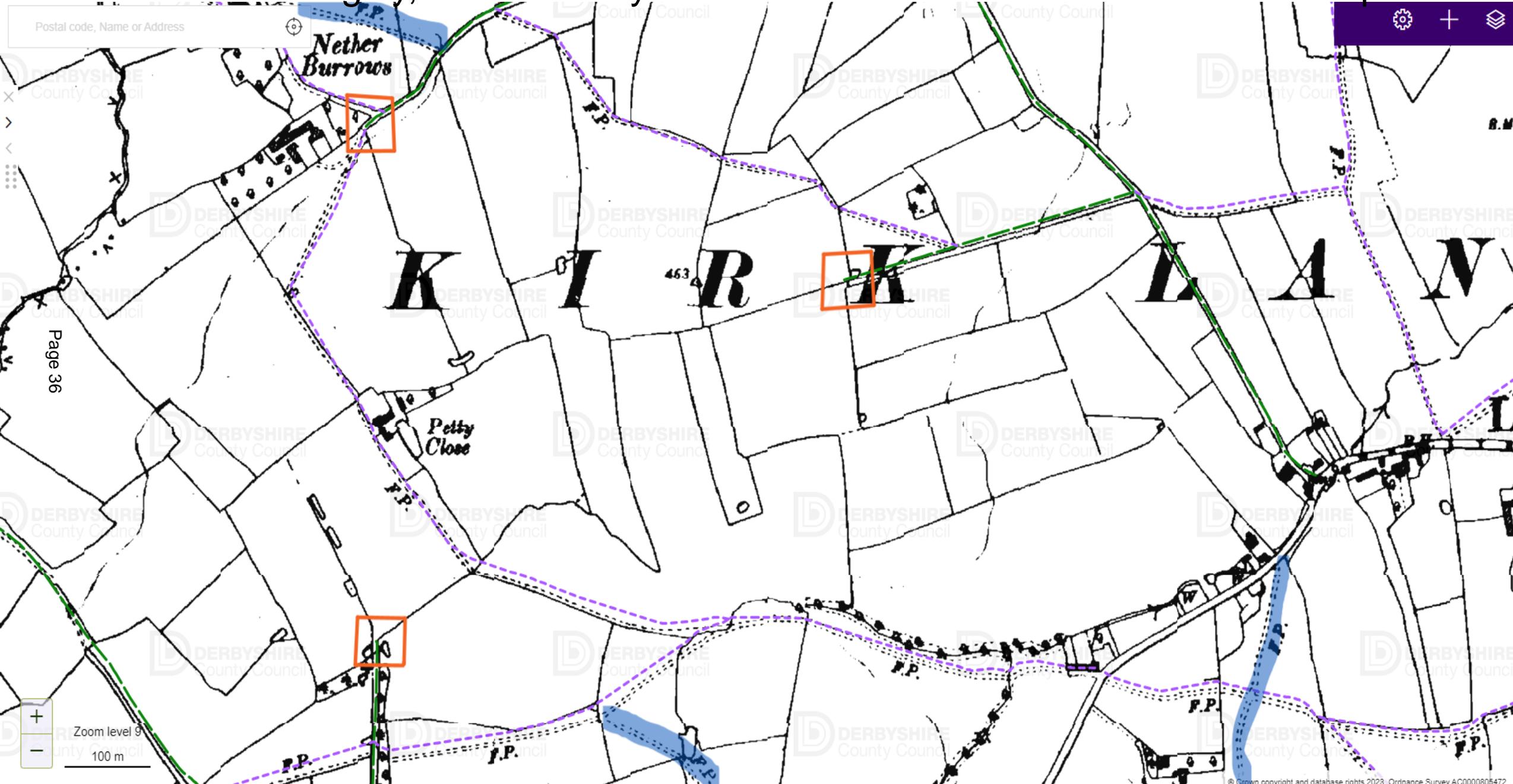
Role of Footpath Secretary

- 1700 km of RoW in Derbyshire Dales
- Reporting footpath issues:
 - Signposts & way marking, surface, footbridges
 - Obstructions, stiles/gates, vegetation, barbed wire, fly tipping & litter
- Definitive Map & Access Land issues
- Consultations and Orders
- Planning applications
- Area Footpath Committee – Area FP Sec

Public Path Diversion Order 2023 Brailsford Footpath 22 (Part)



Kirk Langley, Amber Valley District - OS 1904 to 1939 & Definitive Map



Postal code, Name or Address



Page 36

Zoom level 9
100 m



Parish Path Wardens

- Derbyshire Dales District 110 parishes
- 41 parish path wardens cover 73 parishes
- Parishes range from 91 RoW to just one footpath
- Walk at least once a year



Guidelines for Derbyshire Dales Parish Path Wardens

- 1 Signposting
 - 2 Way marking
 - 3 Bridges
 - 4 Stiles/Gates/Steps/Barriers
 - 5 Obstructions
 - 6 Ploughing & cropping
 - 7 Surface condition
- Note the Parish, RoW status and RoW number
 - Describe the location and 8-figure GR
 - Details of the issue
 - Photographs
 - Note RoWs which are clear of problems
 - Complete and forward/return the Excel sheet, or a Word doc.

Wirksworth		Notes. There are a total of 85 RoWs. All 85 RoWs have been walked in the past year. These RoWs no longer exist: 1, 45, 66, 73, 75-84, 87-90, 113.					
PROW Status	PROW Number	Start GR	End GR	Length m	Walked & Reported	Location/description inc. GR, type of issue, photo no., Case No.	Notes of PROW action
Footpath	14	SK 309552	SK 306545	1027	07/03/2023 12/03/2023	Wirksworth FP 14. SK 3053 5491 to 3052 5491. Barbed wire fence has fallen down adjacent to stone wall, on the DM FP line and is now a trip hazard for walkers. Photos 1844 & 1845. The barbed wire is buried in the grass and I could not remove it. It also presents a potential hazard, both as injury to persons and damage to clothing. Can the landowner remove the obstructing barbed wire and ensure the FP is safe to use. FS-Case-494552188	Martin. Thanks for your report of the issue on this path. The barbed wire trip hazard has been removed. DCC Public Rights of Way. 26-4-23

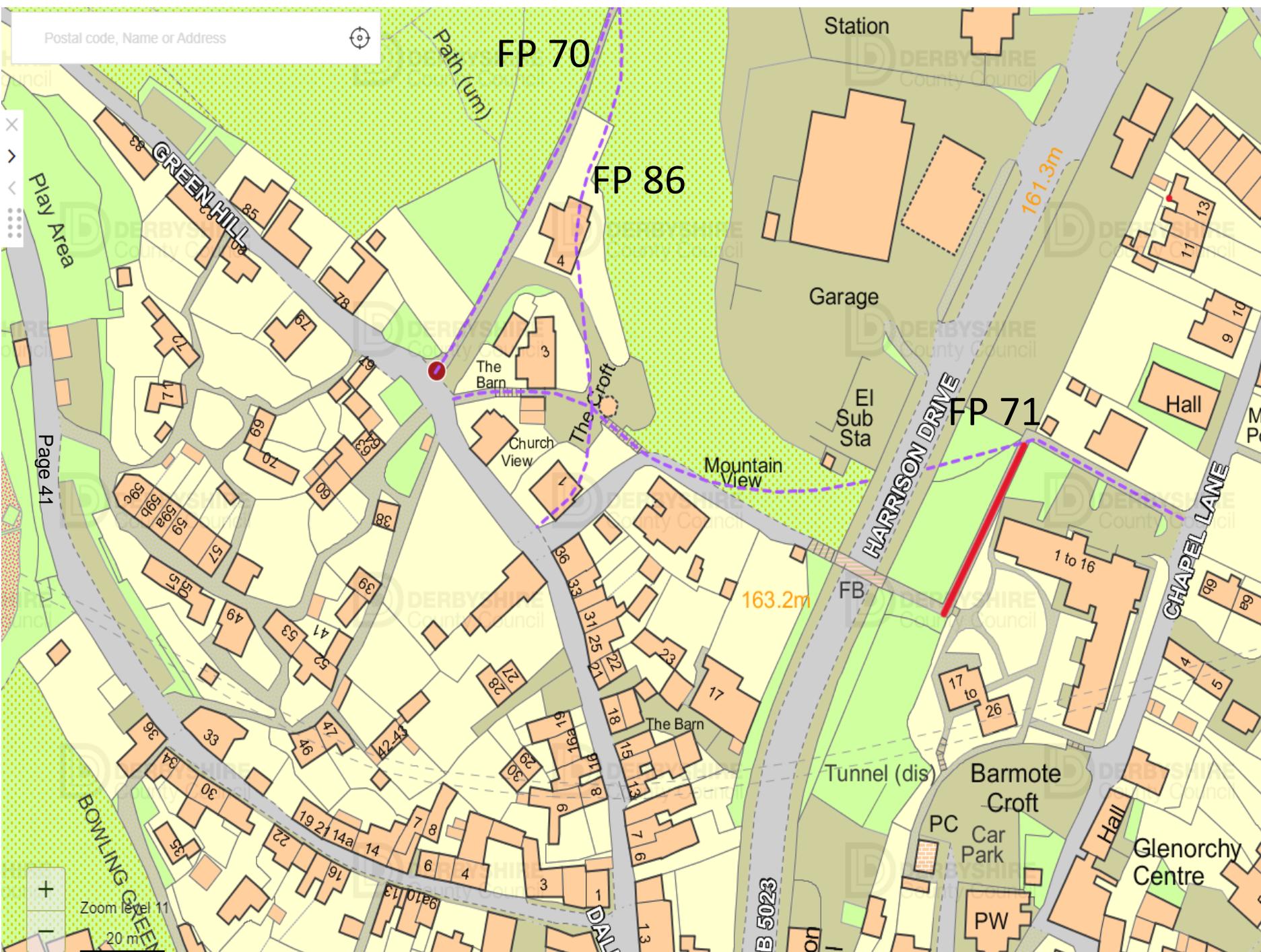




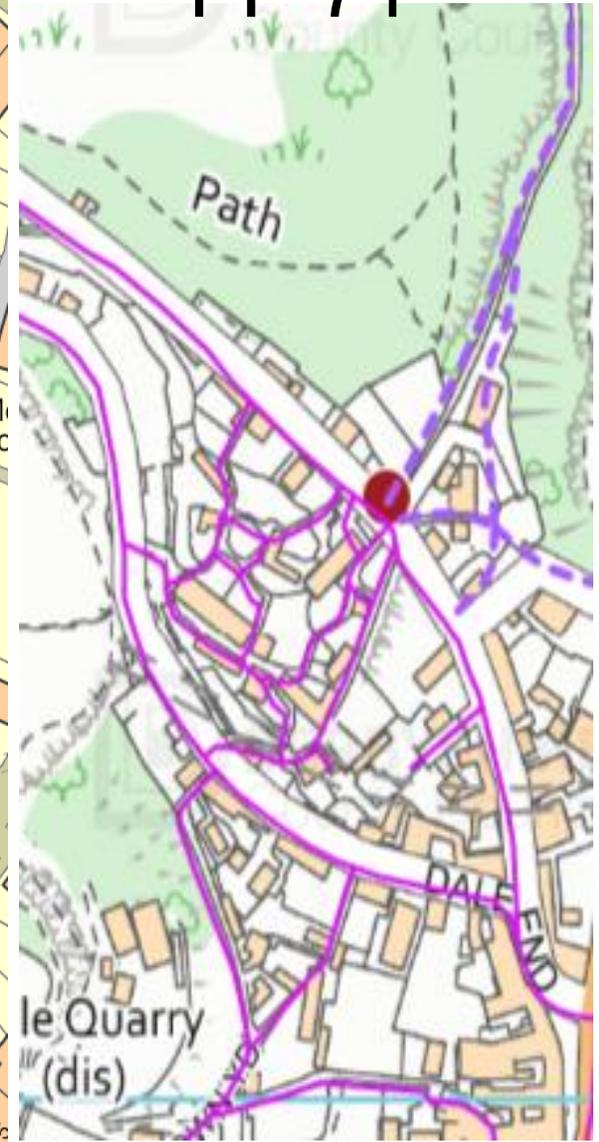
Sword of Damocles on Hulland Ward
FP 23



Footbridge losing its footings due to
poaching at parish boundary of Kirk
Ireton FP 29/Biggin FP 17



Wirksworth FP 71





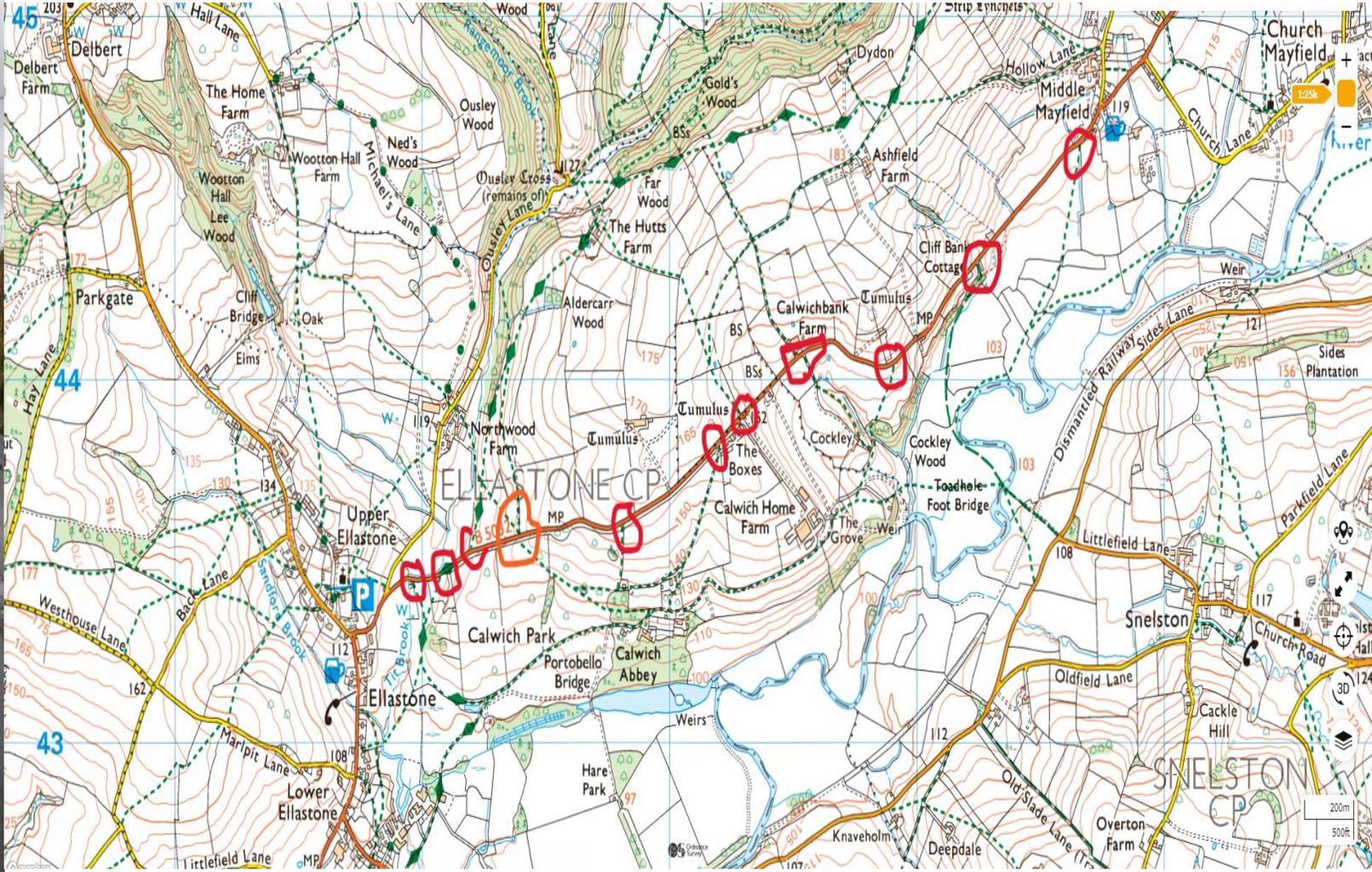
Page 42

Bradwell FP 2 SK 1444 8008



Hopton FP 6 Via Gellia A5012

Staffordshire B5032 Rights of Way



Any questions?

Martin Bennett

footpaths@derbyshiredalesramblers.org.uk

www.derbyshiredalesramblers.org.uk



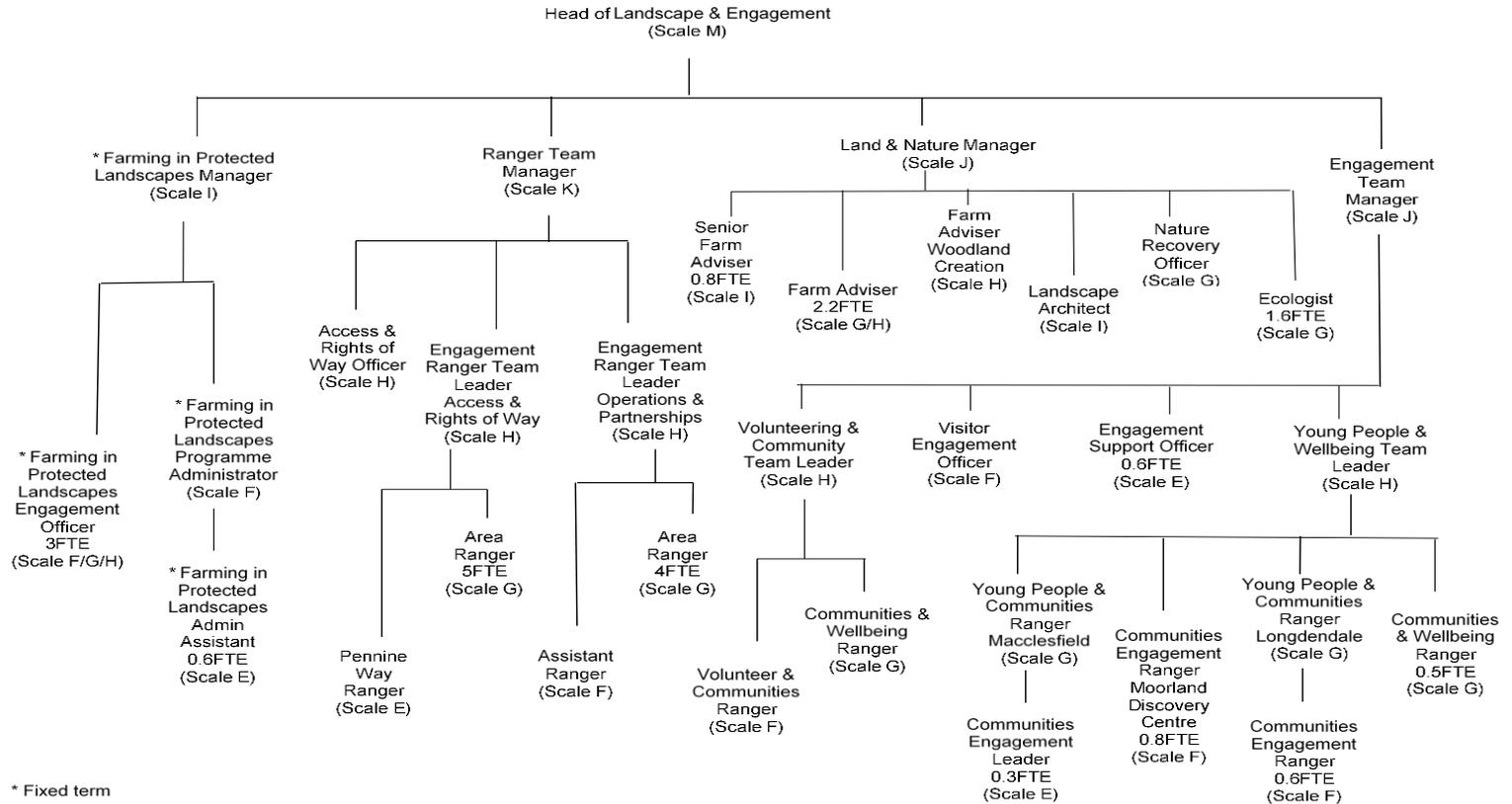
Team Structure and Work Priorities

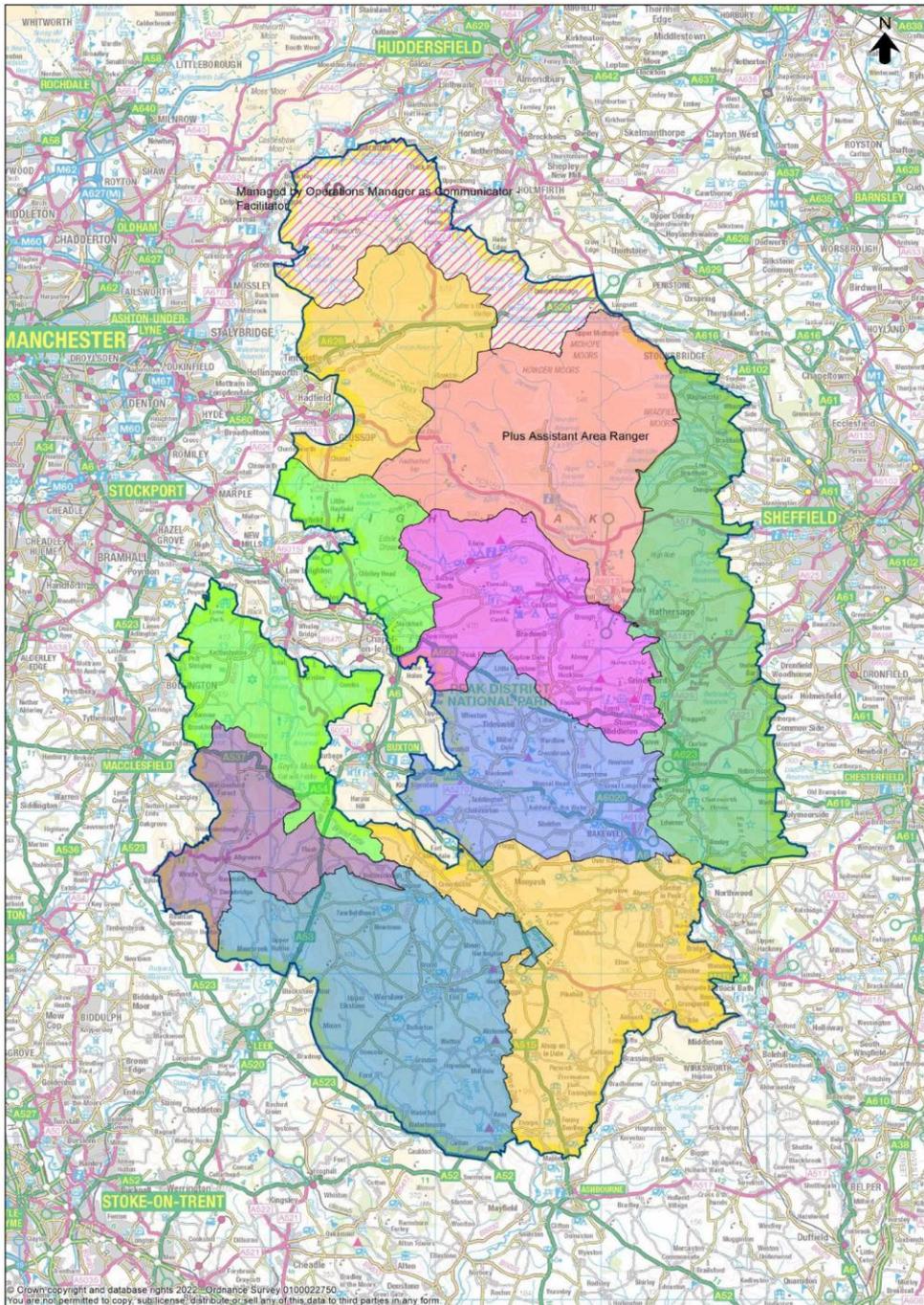
Andy Farmer

Ranger Team Manager

Landscape and Engagement Team Structure

LANDSCAPE & ENGAGEMENT







Priorities of the Team

- ROW Orders arising from planning development decisions
- Delivering CROW Access and Relevant Authority
- Work with highway authorities with regard to rights of way where we have an SLA or MOU
- Local Access Forum
- Green Lane strategy
- Access for All (DEFRA funding)
- Fires Operation Group
- Visitor Management
- Assisting Delivery of the DAP e.g. Health and learning agendas
- Water Company Partnerships
- Delivery of priorities within the NPMP e.g. Recreation Hubs
- Wider delivery of the NPMP
- Volunteers

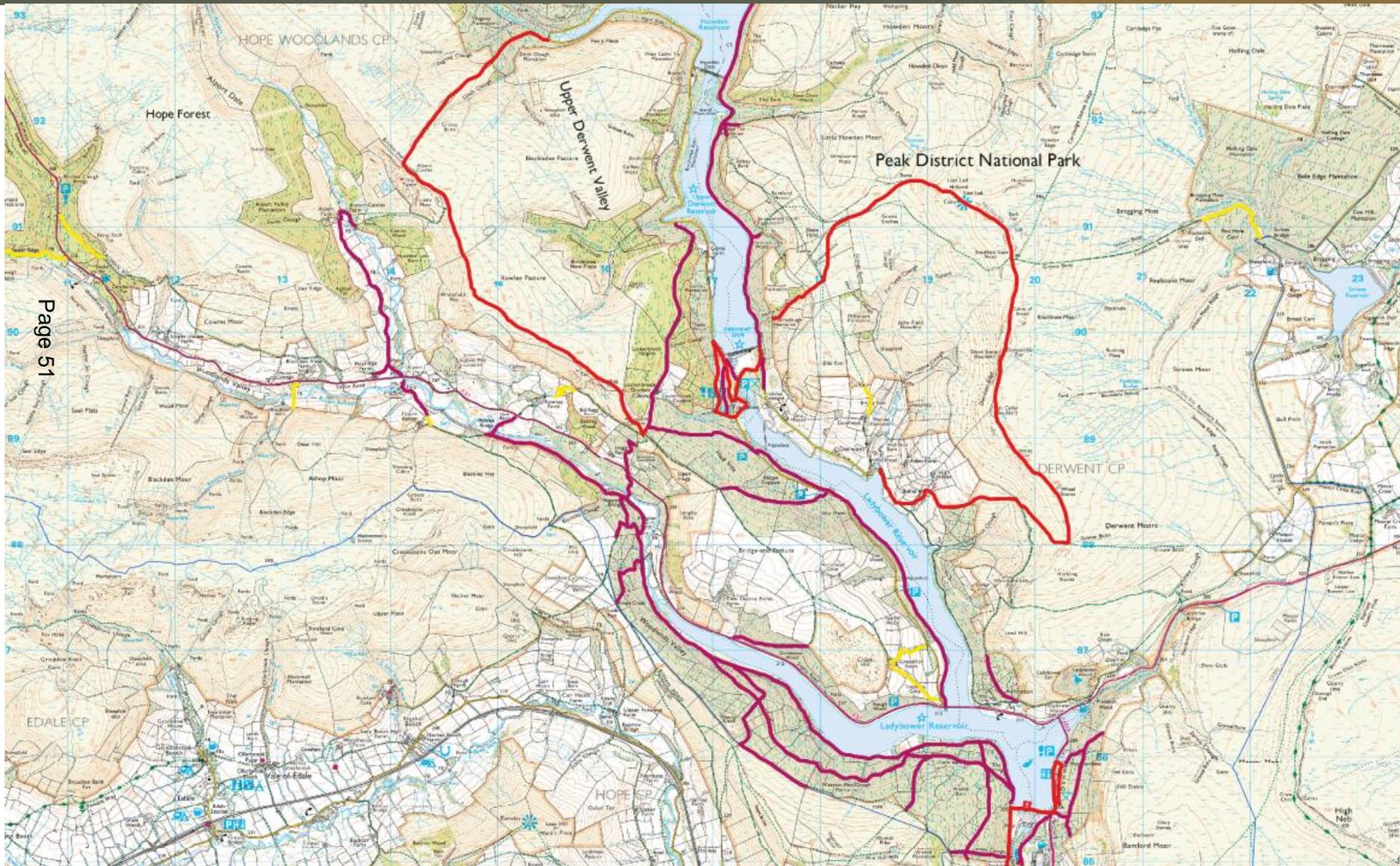
Priorities within Access and ROW work

- ROW Orders linked to planning developments
- Access for All Year 3 Funding 2024/25
- Review of Open Access Directions
- Development and delivery of the Access App (demonstration)
- Recreation Hubs – the envelope of this work is still being defined but will incorporate aspects of our access for all work, our work on rights of way and concession routes , the Green Lane Strategy, sustainable transport etc. But it is a NPMP aspiration and many partners will contribute/lead
- 5% Ease of Use Survey
- All enquiries on ROW within the NP are automatically referred to relevant HA
- But our ROW/Concession/Access Priorities are....



ROW, Concession Route and Access Priorities for the Team

- Walks Around Booklets, Family Walks, Miles without Stiles, routes improved by DEFRA funding (on map red)
- Rights of way and concession routes on water company land (on map purple)
- National Trails e.g. Pennine Way
- Routes promoted by others e.g. Limestone Way and specific requests from highway authority
- Routes that are identified as significantly enhancing new visitors access from hubs
- ROW that facilitate access to CROW land
- FIPL work
- Access Points and concession routes that PDNP have put in
- Monitoring of wider access points



Green Lane Strategy

- The PDNPA will continue to respond to issues arising on priority rights of way of which green lanes form a part and will be incorporated into the Recreation Hubs work
- The strategy focuses on a partnership approach, as it always has, in conjunction with highway authorities, landowners, police and user groups who will discuss the specific nature of issues on a route and agree the proportionate approach by the appropriate bodies, subject to resources available.
- The work may include signage, re –surfacing, legal enforcement and regulation by the appropriate organisation

Peak District Local Access Forum

Date: Wednesday 1 November 2023

Item: 7

Title: Derbyshire's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP) - Update

Author: Gill Millward, Countryside Access Improvement Officer, Sustainable Travel Team, Derbyshire County Council

Purpose of Report

To present Forum members with an update on progress towards the delivery of Derbyshire's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Aim 1: Existing Rights of Way Network

- **Surface condition and drainage:** Work has been continuing to deliver the package of rights of way schemes being funded through the County Council's Highways Capital Programme to improve the drainage and surface condition of routes in need of repair. Further progress with regard to the schemes which the Peak District LAF Sub-Group has been consulted on and is following with particular interest is set out in the table below.

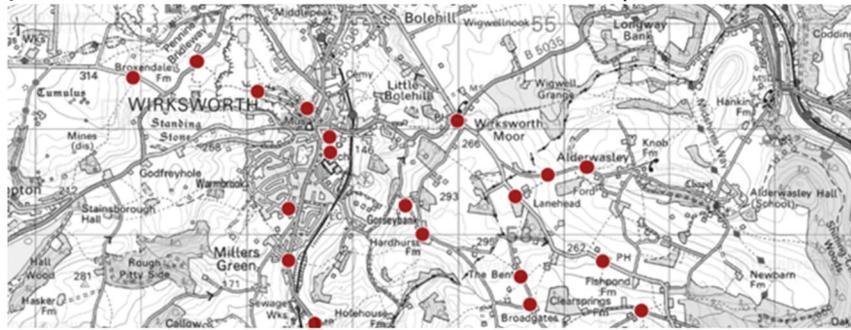
Works completed	
Taddington Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) 70 Sough Lane	Completed May 2022
Great Hucklow BOAT 18	Completed May 2022
Foolow BOAT 20, Nether Bretton	Completed May 2022
Ballidon BOAT 11 Minninglow Lane	Completed July 2022
Hartington Town Quarter Bridleway (BW) 42	Completed August 2022
Baslow Road and Bakewell FP20	Completed November 2022
Bonsall BOAT 64 & 71, Blakelow/ Blakemere Lanes	Completed November 2022
Calver FP 13, Stoney Middleton to Bramley Lane/ Coombsdale	Completed November 2022
Eyam FP 28 & BOAT 34 and Grindleford Restricted Byway (RB) 32, Riley Lane	Completed November 2022
Calver BW 30 and Bramley Lane	Completed December 2022, remedial works in June 2023

Great Longstone BOAT 52, Blakedon Hollow Lagoon	Completed December 2022
Stoney Middleton BW 17 (Moisty Lane to Black Harry Lane)	Completed January 2023
Hope FP33	Completed February 2023
Edensor BOAT 13 off Handley Lane	Completed March 2023
Green Lane Middleton (High Peak Trail to Green Lane)	Completed March 2023
Castleton FP 21 and Hollowford Road (BW22)	Completed June 2023
Hayfield BW 47 – Phase 2 below Kinder Reservoir	Completed June 2023
Edale BW 19 – Phase 1 (Pennine Way)	Completed June 2023
Beeley BOAT 13	Completed June 2023
Charlesworth FP 52 beside Torside Reservoir, linking to Trans Pennine Trail	Completed August 2023
Outseats FP 7, North Lees	Completed August 2023
Tintwistle BW 26 off A628 near Torside Reservoir	Completed August 2023
Castleton FP 20 Tor House to Hollins Cross	Completed September 2023
Works issued to contractor	
Eyam BOAT 25 (Sir William Hill Road to Edge Road)	Works stopped due to verge damage
Edale BW 19 Phase 2 (Pennine Way, Jacobs Ladder)	Waiting for start date
Hope Woodlands FP 24	Ash dieback felling to be completed before work can start
Hartington Upper Quarter FP144/ FP106	Alongside Fernilee reservoir, waiting for access approvals
To be funded in 2024/25	
Castleton BW 40	Dirtlow Rake
Hayfield BW 47 – Phase 1	Kinder Reservoir
Hope BW 32 & BW 5	Low Barn and Brinks Road to Hope Cross
Macclesfield Old Road	Bridge Car Park to Buxton
Peak Forest BW 55	Eldon Quarry
Birchover BOAT 23	Clough Lane
Chapel en le Frith BOAT 144	Rushup Edge (Chapel Gate)
Monyash BOAT 29	Derby Lane

- **Vegetation clearance:** A list of those paths where it is planned to cut back vegetation on an annual basis is now attached to the webpage for the Rights of Way Maintenance Programme:

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/access/rights-of-way/scheduled-maintenance-programme/scheduled-maintenance-programme.aspx

- **Roadside signposting:** Work is also underway to replace 400 missing or damaged roadside signposts across the County in 2023/24, with 320 having been completed so far. Details of those locations (shown as red dots) where signposts are planned to be installed are available on the Derbyshire Mapping Portal by selecting the Public Rights of Way Maintenance layer:



the Public Rights of Way Maintenance layer:

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/partnerships/derbyshire-mapping-portal/derbyshire-mapping-portal.aspx

Aim 2: Definitive Map and Statement

- In terms of dealing with the backlog of Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) applications, a Public Inquiry was held back in August for an order relating to the addition of a Byway Open to All Traffic along the non-classified highway between New Road and Main Road near Stoke in Grindleford Parish after objections were received. In June 2023, a local hearing was held at New Mills Town Hall to consider an Order proposing to add a Footpath from Yeadsley Lane to Buxton Road (A6) in Whaley Bridge.

- **Project 2026 Derbyshire:** In advance of the new 1 January 2031 cut-off date, volunteers are continuing to investigate historic, unrecorded routes. According to the British Horse Society's Dobbin database for Derbyshire, research records have now been created for 381 paths across the county, with 206 DMMO claims already submitted to the County Council. Those applications which have been validated ie made in accordance with the requirements of the legislation can be viewed through the on-line register at:

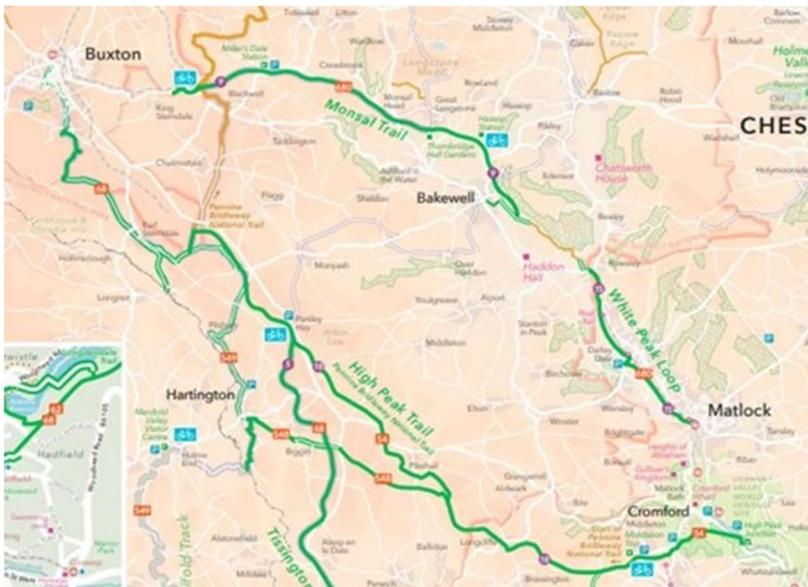
www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/access/rights-of-way/register-of-applications-for-rights-of-way/register-of-applications-for-rights-of-way.aspx

Aim 3: An improved network

- Pennine Bridleway National Trail (PBW): Grant offers have been received from the Pennine National Trails Partnership on behalf of

Natural England (totalling £38,812) towards the costs of employing a PBW Maintenance Officer and for carrying out works on the Trail in 2023/24, supported by match funding from the County Council. On-going maintenance continues, with drainage work and general repairs being undertaken along the route. Groundwork volunteers have been busy repairing gates and carrying out significant drainage work around Hayfield. Funding has been secured from the County Council's Highways Capital Programme (LTP3) to replace the non-slip surfaces on road crossings and work is also being undertaken to investigate eligible sections for improvements on the PBW for possible funding from Natural England's Accessibility Fund. The annual condition surveys for the Pennine Bridleway and Pennine Way have now been completed and will be used to inform the allocation of maintenance grants for 2024/25. On the development side, a £10k grant is also available from the Partnership to enable further investigation work to continue in 2023/24 for the missing sections of the Trail around Glossop. Risk assessments and method statements have recently been sent to Network Rail to secure future site visits to help progress the proposed alternative route into Gamesley.

- **White Peak Loop:** 62km or 71% of the White Peak Loop (WPL) is currently complete. The missing gaps are from the Monsal Trail at



Topley Pike into and through Buxton to Harpur Hill; from High Peak Junction near Cromford to Matlock Railway Station and from Old Station Close in Rowsley to Coombs Road, Bakewell.

At its meeting on 15 June 2023, the County

Council's Cabinet formally accepted the Active Travel England (ATE) Tranche 4 grant of £275,000. This has been allocated to help fund further work to progress the missing sections of the White Peak Loop from the end of the Monsal Trail at Topley Pike through Wye Dale/ Woo Dale and across Buxton town centre to Harpur Hill, building on the recent appraisal work undertaken by our consultants. The next steps will include: outlining and agreeing the preferred route alignment, surveys and other assessments/ approvals required to support planning applications, preliminary to detailed designs, construction costs and

whole route stakeholder/ community engagement. Further information about the WPL can be found here:

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/access/cycling/white-peak-loop/white-peak-loop.aspx

- **Little Eaton Branch Line – Derby City to Ripley Active Travel**

Route: At its meeting on 15 June 2023, Cabinet also formally accepted the Active Travel England (ATE) Tranche 4 grant of £2.73million to deliver this extension to the National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 54 between Duffield Road in Little Eaton and Rawson Green, Kilburn. The results of the stakeholder/ community engagement which was carried out last Autumn have now been published on our website:



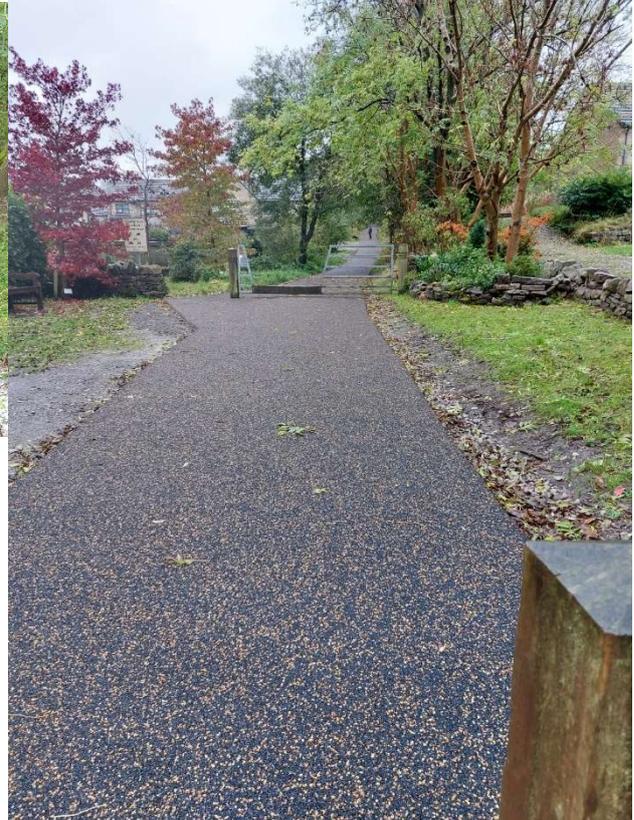
[Little Eaton Results Summary \(derbyshire.gov.uk\)](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/little-eaton-results-summary)

- **Derwent Valley Cycleway:** Work on the feasibility study which has been commissioned by the County Council to look at the possible route options for a 54km proposed cycleway/ trail through the Derwent Valley between Shardlow to the SE of Derby and Hathersage is nearing completion. Reports for each of the five sections of the route are being finalised with input from officers and members of the Derwent Valley Trust.

- **Peak Forest Tramway Trail:** The resurfacing of a 1.3km section of the Peak Forest Tramway Trail between Lower Crist, near Buxworth and Green Lane in Chinley is now complete. Three A frame/ K barriers have also been removed to provide an open and more accessible route for all users.



- **Shallcross Incline, Whaley Bridge:** Work to resurface and repair the Shallcross Incline Greenway was completed at the beginning of September. This involved laying a new porous paving surface made from recycled rubber and natural stone aggregate.



The new surface allows water to percolate through it, reducing the risk of local flooding and helping the path to remain drier and more easily accessible in poor weather conditions. The K barriers at either end of the Incline have also been removed and two new recycled plastic benches installed to provide additional resting places along the route. This is the first time that we have used this type of material on such a substantial length of path (600m). The feedback received so far has been really positive and we will continue to monitor how weather resistant and hardwearing the new surfacing proves to be.

- **Safer Roads Fund Projects:** Following the public consultation events which took place for the A5004 (Long Hill) between Buxton and Whaley Bridge and the A5012 (Via Gellia) between Cromford and Newhaven, reports were presented to the Cabinet meeting on 21 September (see Agenda Items 15 and 16) when Members resolved to accept the officer recommendations:

<https://democracy.derbyshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=135&MId=1314&Ver=4>

Aim 4: Improve the promotion, understanding and use of the network

- **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP):** The report summarising the responses received to the public engagement is being finalised and will be published online once it has been approved by each of the authorities involved in the preparation of the LCWIP for the Derby Derbyshire Nottingham Nottinghamshire (D2N2) area.

- **Active travel webinars:** In partnership with Visit Peak District & Derbyshire, the County Council co-ordinated a successful series of five webinars on cycling and active travel helping to create and support healthier communities and economic growth. The recordings are available here to view and share:
<https://www.visitpeakdistrict.com/industry/events>

Aim 5: Greater community involvement

- **Volunteer contribution:** The work of volunteers on our countryside sites, paths and trails continues to be supported under a service level agreement with Groundwork Five Counties, formerly known as Groundwork Greater Nottingham. Groundwork operates across Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Rutland and Leicestershire, delivering projects to support local people and communities. Volunteer task days are managed and supervised on behalf of the County Council, including support for the groups working on the Clowne Greenway, Archaeological Way, Pennine Bridleway National Trail, Little Eaton Branch Line and White Peak Loop.

Recommendation: That Forum Members note this progress report for delivering Derbyshire's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

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Peak District Local Access Forum

Date: 1 November 2023

Item: 8

Title: Access Update

Author: Sue Smith

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on issues related to access in the Peak District.

Access Land Mapping

The current deadline for Natural England's mapping review is 2024/25, although consideration is being given to extending it to 31 December 2030.

The Authority has developed an app to allow for improved monitoring and recording of access to open access land. Access points will be monitored biennially by the Rangers and Volunteer Rangers.

Changing Place

A planning application for a Changing Place and Trumper storage at Millers Dale Station has been submitted by the Authority. This has been enabled by funding from DLUHC, Peak Innovation Community Infrastructure grant, and the Peak District Foundation with a donation from Accessible Derbyshire.

Access Fund

The Peak District Foundation supports conservation and access initiatives, including via the Authority's Access Fund. In 2023, the partnership moved to a more sustainable self-financing model. In early 2024, Miles without Stiles projects fundraised by the 70kfor70 campaign will be taking place.

Access Improvements

A number of access improvements have taken place in 2023 with funding from the Access Fund, and Defra's Access for All and Farming in Protected Landscapes programmes. A media update and summary are circulated for information.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

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ACCESS FOR ALL MEDIA UPDATE

NOV 2022 - JULY 2023



**PEAK
DISTRICT
NATIONAL
PARK**



WEBSITE PRESENCE

A dedicated page for background information and hiring of Trampers was launched in spring 2023.

This includes:

- Explanation of the key features of a Trampler
- A video featuring the Trampers*
- A visual branding link to the vehicles available at each location; to aid the hiring experience and bring a sense of assurity to the process (and a bit of fun!)
- A link to hire a Trampler
- Links to Miles without Stiles routes

VIDEO CONTENT

Two dedicated videos have been produced, both available to view at: peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/planning-your-visit/access-for-all

MILES WITHOUT STILES

A combination of camera presentation, voiceover, on-screen captions and footage covering three key user areas; Trampers, self-reliant wheelchair users and pushchair users.

TRAMPERS

An informative video* covering all users may want to know about hiring a Trampler including types of route and a sense of what the customer will experience when they visit a centre.

BRANDING

The new Trampers have all be given an individual photographic livery that represents both the local area where they are most typically based and a nod to the Peak District's iconic millstone logo. The side of each Trampler also features an access for all graphic showing the range of user opportunities along our trails.

*due to funding timings, the video had to be shot during winter conditions.

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

Example

24 February - Trampler preview

Impressions: 41,442

Engagement rate: 2.7%

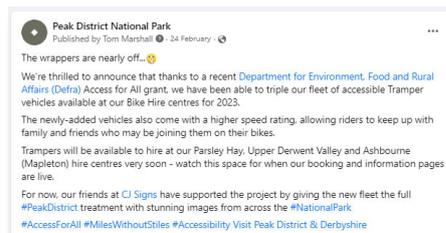
- 1,116 engagements
- 649 reactions
- 9 comments
- 33 shares

31 March - Trampler video

Impressions: 24,462

Engagement rate: 3.6%

- 885 engagements
- 227 reactions
- 36 comments



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



ACCESS FOR ALL MEDIA UPDATE

NOV 2022 - JULY 2023



AT A GLANCE

Access for All - Communications

- +20% increase in visits to online Access content vs 2022 (pre-funding)
- +64% increase in visits to Miles without Stiles webpage vs 2022 (pre-funding)
- Around a third increase in visits to individual MwS pages vs 2022
- More Tramper hires in first six months of 2023 vs whole of 2022
- Over 40,500 views of new access videos created in 2023

MEDIA COVERAGE

The following key coverage has been tracked by our media monitoring**:

- National Park Authority set to use cash to improve Peaks accessibility: Ashbourne News Telegraph, p6 (08.03.2023)
- Funding to help make Peak District accessible to all: Yorkshire Post, p30 (18.02.23)
- [New funding unlocks Peak District National Park access improvements - Glossop Chronicle](#)
- [New funding unlocks Peak District National Park access improvements | InYourArea Community](#)

**CLA and NLA licencing precludes us from sharing visual cuttings of coverage.

SOCIAL MEDIA COVERAGE

Feedback and comments:

- “ *I've hired these a few times and they're brilliant. They've enabled me to go further than my limited mobility permits. I look forward to hiring them this year too*
- “ *What a great idea!*
- “ *Fantastic idea*
- “ *This is awesome news*
- “ *This looks to be a safe path for walking on - away from the main flow of traffic*



Farming in Protected Landscapes

The Defra-funded Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme began in July 2021 and will run until March 2025. It supports farming and land management projects in England's Protected Landscapes that make improvements for nature, climate, people and place. The FiPL programme approach blends national and local priorities. Contributions to nature recovery and climate resilient businesses, heritage conservation and better access for people to enjoy our protected landscapes all feature in programme delivery.

People Outcomes

- There are more opportunities for people to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- There are more opportunities for more diverse audiences to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- There is greater public engagement in land management, for example through volunteering

The programme is now in its third year. The data below relates to programme delivery in the Peak District up to March 2023.

Total number of projects: 205 with 90 delivering people focussed outcomes

New permissive paths: 10 (5040m)

Upgraded routes: 8

8 projects delivering educational access (16 visits with expectation of many more in 2023/24)

17 projects making the landscape more inclusive for visitors

18 projects involving volunteers (312 in total)

Peak Permissive Paths

The new access routes enhance access by improving connectivity in the rights of way network and to and within CRow access land. They take people to places to explore and enjoy. Places where they will want to go.

Clear route-finding is important to give people the confidence to visit and for the landowner in providing for safe and managed access. On-site information includes site plans, directional signposts with distances, and waymarkers. Website information provides details and directions, mapping, and what to look out for. Each route has its own webpage allowing for customisation, links, and analytics. Routes are at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/peakpaths.

Funding provides for capital works and for an annual payment for management and maintenance of access. To ensure accessibility, funding is provided for gate installation only.

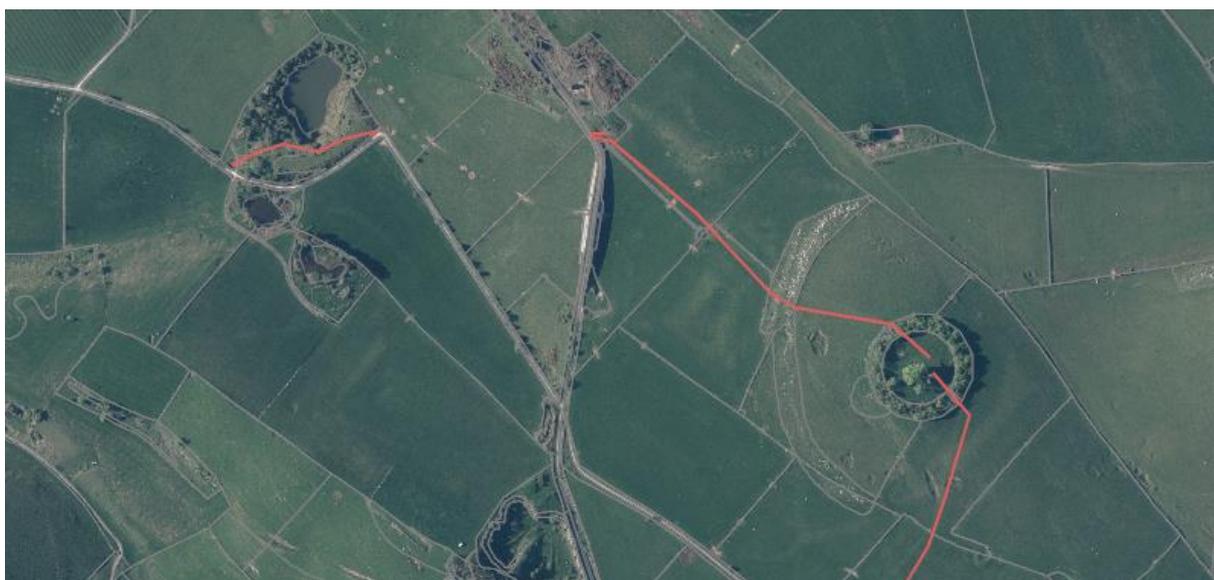
Example Projects

At **Five Wells Farm** a new permissive path takes people through the historic lead mining landscape, crossing a flower-rich hillside, hay meadows and rocky outcrops. It complements an existing permissive path allowing access to a scheduled cairn. Over 20 volunteers were involved in recording and restoring a regionally rare limekiln.

At **Higher Plainsteads Farm** a grant for repairs to a barn means it can host more and better educational visits and craft courses, including visits from community and special needs groups.

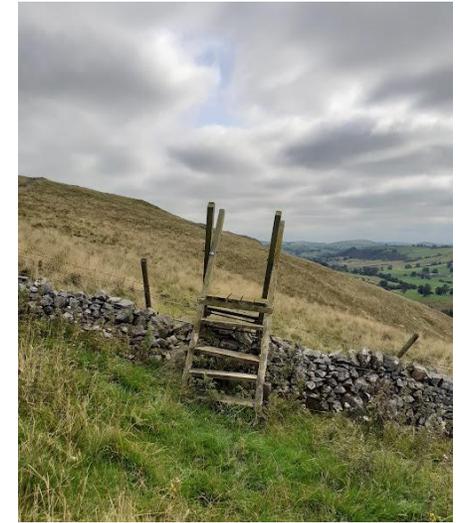
Surfacing on the bridlepath above **Ladybower** has enhanced access for families on cycles and for trampers and mountain trikes. The routes to **Thor's cave** in the Manifold Valley and from Glossop to **Bleaklow** in the Dark Peak have also been restored.

The new permissive path at **Minninglow Grange** takes walkers through a previous industrial site now reclaimed by nature and supporting a wealth of habitats and species including ponds and great crested newts, scrub rich in birdlife and species rich grassland. This path complements an existing well established permissive path allowing visitors to access the scheduled barrow on Minninglow Hill, a very significant archaeological site and an amazing viewpoint.



Permissive paths shown as a red line

Access Fund Access



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