



Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Simon Pickering (Chair)	Welsh Government – Head of Landscape & Outdoor Recreation
Jont Bulbeck	Natural Resources Wales
Eifion Jones (BBNPA)	Representing the 3 National Park Authorities and 5 AONBs
Ben Sears	Welsh Local Government Association

Technical and secretarial support:

Name	Organisation
Helen Lewis	Welsh Government - Landscape & Outdoor Recreation
Sarah Smith	Welsh Government - Landscape & Outdoor Recreation
Joe Roberts	Natural Resources Wales
Jayne Carter	Natural Resources Wales

Apologies:

Adrian Walls	Welsh Rights of Way Managers Working Group
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Key decisions and actions arising	Owner
<p>Notes and actions from previous meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes were agreed. Action point 4 & 5 (17/06/20): NRW have identified a number of legal questions that have been raised during the expert groups meetings. EJ and AW agreed to check the legal questions raised from a rights of way officer's perspective. <p>NRW will send to WG a finalised paper setting out the legal queries.</p> <p><i>A finalised paper of legal questions has been submitted to WG.</i></p>	

<p>3. Action point 7 (17/06/20): It was recognised that it would be helpful to move the future Steering Group meetings back by approximately 2 weeks. NRW will advise WG of the suggested changes.</p> <p><i>The timetable for the Steering Group meetings has been amended.</i></p> <p>4. Action point 10 (17/06/20): Ben has arranged a meeting with a Spatial Data Officer to discuss assisting ExG3.</p> <p><i>Unfortunately the meeting did not take place. In the meantime, NRW will continue to utilise internal resources. The need for external advice may need to be considered again at a later date.</i></p>	
<p>Option Identification Report Update</p> <p>5. NRW provided an update on the feedback that had been received. The Group agreed this feedback should be compiled in a 'Report of Responses' document.</p> <p>It was noted that this stage was a call for evidence and opinion on the preferred options will be sought at a later date. While a number of detailed responses had been received, some Expert Group members had commented they had been restricted in their ability to respond due to Covid. The Group agreed that sector representatives should consider using deputies or others representing the same interest group if they are unable to contribute.</p> <p>6. It was agreed that the report should record who provided comments and the types of evidence received.</p> <p>7. A discussion took place regarding further engagement and the need to link in with WG's wider strategic views. Simon agreed to contact colleagues responsible for Active Travel and will continue conversations with Sustainable Farming.</p>	<p>NRW</p> <p>NRW</p> <p>Simon</p>
<p>Option Analysis and Identification Report</p> <p>8. NRW advised that indicative costs will be provided where possible. It should be noted that a Regulatory Impact Assessment would explore costs.</p> <p>9. The Group agreed the basis of the Option Analysis Report; a factual based analysis of each of the options against the criteria. It will make suggestions and opportunities for refining, including a narrative on cross-cutting themes and responsible recreation.</p>	

<p>Some areas such as 'power vs duty' may need to be left for WG to consider.</p>	
<p>Legal Questions</p> <p>10. The Group was advised that WG and NRW legal teams both considered their remit did not cover providing advice to ARAG. Costs from an external legal firm are currently being sought and will be submitted to WG for approval.</p>	<p>WG/NRW</p>
<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>11. An online facilitator will be used for the next EG meetings. NRW will send the proposal to Steering Group members in order to finalise at the next SG meeting.</p> <p>12. NRW will provide a list of crossovers between Group 1 and Group 2 reforms.</p> <p>13. WG advised that the NAF Sub-group considering the access to water proposals (Group 3) have written to the Deputy Minister outlining an option they wish to pursue further.</p>	<p>NRW</p> <p>NRW</p>