Access Reform Programme: Steering Group Meeting 12 25 November 2020



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
Adrian Walls	Welsh Rights of Way Managers Working Group
Ben Sears	Welsh Local Government Association

Technical and secretarial support:

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

Key decisions and actions arising		Owner
Notes and	actions from previous meeting (28/10/2020)	
	nts 5 and 7: The Responses Report, Analysis Reports and t Cross-Cutting Themes Report have been submitted.	
Final Acce	ess Reform Report Structure	
The group reviewed the draft report structure and agreed the following:-		
2.1	The information will be presented as one report split into chapters, rather than the separate report format which has previously been used to enable consideration by different Expert Groups.	NRW
2.2	One individual chapter for each of the 6 reforms 1A to 3B (i.e. combine points 4 and 5 of the draft report structure together). This will ensure complete separation between the options so that individual ones can be progressed independently of the others if appropriate.	

2.3 Cross-cutting cutting themes: one chapter needed to cover 3 of the themes (commercial activity, LAFs and equality of access), and a separate chapter to cover the larger topic of Responsible Recreation.	
Option Analysis Reports	
3. Discussion took place around the reports and the executive summary, with the group suggesting improvements to the format to reduce repetition where possible.	
4. The group endorsed the structure and overall content of the reports. It was recognised that these reports are, by their nature, relatively technical and it was felt the right overall balance had been struck between detail and readability.	
 5. Next steps: 5.1 Finalise reports 5.2 Approval from steering group 5.3 Issue reports to Expert Groups ahead of January meetings 5.4 Translation and publication on website 	
Cross-cutting Themes Report	All
 The draft report (submitted just prior to the meeting) was discussed in overall terms. Steering group members to review in more detail after the meeting and forward any further comments to NRW by the end of the week. 	NRW
 A separate group drawn from the 3 Expert Groups will be convened to review the cross-cutting themes report and make further recommendations. 	
January 2021 Expert Group Meetings	
The meetings will be facilitated by Dafydd Thomas and outputs will be recorded in response reports.	
 Revisions will be made to the Option Identification reports using the information from the analysis stage, and these will be issued as Option Selection reports to the expert groups prior to the meetings. 	

10. There will be 8 meetings in total: 6 for the individual reform options, 1 for Responsible Recreation and 1 for the remaining 3 cross-cutting themes.

Any Other Business

- 11. AW reported the covid19 pandemic has encouraged many landowners to suggest temporary alternative routes to avoid farmyards, buildings, etc. due to covid19. These have been generally well received by users and their success has encouraged landowners to apply for formal diversions.
- 12. Scenario modelling of the options should include an idea of cost implications. The difficulty of producing accurate estimates at this stage was recognised but consideration could be given to providing examples of unit costs for individual activities.