

Access Improvement Grant – Reporting template

Please use a new sheet for each project / location.

Please copy and paste entire page for more templates.

Project title:	Location:
Rivers Wye and Usk information enhancement. Locations at canoe access and egress points to each river	River Wye, between Rhayader and Hay on Wye; River Usk – Sennybridge to Crickhowell

Description of works completed:
There are two parts to this project, being: 1) <u>Production of information materials to support a Concordat Management arrangement for canoe launching at Upper Glas-y-Bont common, Glasbury:</u> This element is linked to the outcomes of a Habitat Regulations Assessment which is being carried out and funded by the Council. To date, the South Wales Outdoor Activity Group has started the process of exploring the content of the information materials, on the basis of the content of the Code of Conduct that was in place previously and the two advice letters that have been issued by Natural Resources Wales around the environmental mitigation that will need to be implemented. 2) <u>Upgrade and replace existing signage at other access and egress points on the Rivers Wye and Usk:</u> This work will be in partnership with the Wye and Usk Foundation. However, due to constraints on Wye and Usk Foundation time this financial year, this element of the project will move forward into 2023-24.

Spend breakdown:
Spend to date has been £562.50, to cover South Wales Outdoor Activity Group staff time costs in initial review and exploration of the content of information materials to support a Concordat management arrangement.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)
The expected outputs are launch point information signage, web-based materials and an online training course to support sustainable paddling on the River Wye, between Rhayader and Hay on Wye and the River Usk, between Sennybridge and Crickhowell. It is proposed that £10,000 of the project spend be deferred to 2023-24; instead, work on a year 2 project will be brought forward for completion in 2022-23. 1) The content of the information materials cannot be finalised until the Habitat Regulations Assessment is completed; whilst a draft has been prepared by an external specialist, stakeholder consultation on this has unfortunately been delayed because on review with Natural Resources Wales, significant new information has been identified that will need further consideration. As such, whilst there will be project activity in spring 2023, completion of work will now be in 2023-24. The

Concordat element will continue in spring 2023, in readiness for the outcome of the Habitat Regulations Assessment; this will be funded through separate external revenue funds that SWOAPG has secured and existing Council funding.

2) Again, this element will now be completed in 2023-24, due to constraints on staff resource at the Wye and Usk Foundation.

Photographic evidence – before / during:

None – Information materials under production.

Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

N/A

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Project title:	Location:
Builth Wells Circular Trail	Builth Wells, Powys.

Description of works completed:
The project was to create a 2.5 km countryside, improved access, circular walk on the outskirts of Builth Wells. Starting at Builth golf club and connecting with the Wye Valley Walk. Access improvements consisted of 850m of path clearance through heavy scrub, the removal of 5 stiles so as to leave gaps, and the replacement of a further 2 stiles with easy opening gates.

Spend breakdown:
The total spend on this project is £5885.52. A full breakdown of the project spend will be available for the final project update.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)
The project will deliver against the aspirations of Powys County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2018-28. The provision of high-quality green space and public access to Powys' countryside and support for its biodiversity and heritage is at the heart of the work of Countryside Services. Public rights of way and Access land offer unrivalled opportunities for the enjoyment of the Powys countryside. The Rights of Way Improvement Plan is the means by which Powys County Council plans and prioritises resources to the current public access available in the county and will assist others in Powys in developing an accessible countryside. The project will remove barriers to access and create a link to the Wye Valley Walk making a circular countryside route through the urban fringe.

Photographic evidence – before / during:
Photographic evidence will follow on final report.
Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

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Project title:	Location:
Cwm Biga Footbridge	Cwm Biga, Staylittle, Powys

Description of works completed:
Installing a new footbridge in the area of Cwm Biga. The authority recently reopened a blocked footpath, and the route has become popular amongst locals. Concerns have been raised about a stream crossing that is difficult and dangerous. Procurement done. Bridge kit has been ordered. A contractor is in place to carry out work and this should hopefully be completed before Christmas. Paths; Most of the surveying has been completed. All those surveyed have been costed for labour and contractor. Hope to complete surveying and identify land ownership before Christmas. Plan to meet with local Councillor early in the New Year and decide which routes would be most beneficial to improve.

Spend breakdown:
No current spend to report.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)
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Photographic evidence – before / during:
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Photographic evidence will follow on final report.

Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

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Project title:	Location:
Cilcenni Improvements	Cilcenni, Powys

Description of works completed:

The aim of the project during 2022-23 is to replace the bridge over stream (using recycled and long-life materials which are anti-slip) and improve surface near bridge and remove steps replacing with slope.

NRW SSSI consent has been obtained, quotes for bridges have been received, and quotes for installation of bridges is currently pending, liaison with the landowner on going. The landowner is very reluctant to allow access across his field in the wet (12m bridge kit, with each beam approx. 220kg, plus 16t of crushed stone, so it is understandable). It may be a case of raising all purchase orders and pushing all works into spring 2023, judging by the weather which we are having.

Spend breakdown:

No current spend.

Outputs:

(i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)

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Photographic evidence – before / during:
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Photographic evidence will follow on final report.
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Project title:	Location:
Wye Valley Walk Improvements	Mid & South Powys

Description of works completed:
The aims for the project during 2022-22 are to survey the entire section of WVV in Powys (62km), in order to build action plan for targeted improvements to meet Wye Valley AONB plan of relaunching WVV for 50th anniversary in 2023, will feed into new WVV guide and website. Phase 1 is the survey, this has been put into a useable format within CAMS, and the idea was to get some help with the survey's with the volunteers using CAMS Web, but there have been a few issues with CAMS Web, which are linked to Powys County Council ICT issues. Training will need to be undertaken with the volunteers on surveying and CAMS Web; once that is complete, they should be able to carry out the survey's hopefully before the end of March 2023. Which will then put us in a good position to identify the targeted improvements, subject to landowner agreement.

Spend breakdown:
No current spend.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)

Photographic evidence – before / during:
Photographic evidence will follow on final report.
Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

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Project title:	Location:
Volunteer Handbook For Publishing On Internet	Powys

Description of works completed:
The aim of the project is to produce a handbook to facilitate and support community-based volunteer groups to manage their PROW and Greenspaces more effectively, to include; MoA, Guidance on Legislation, Standard Letters, Info on procedure, Furniture installation info. The handbook will be produced by an external consultant and managed by PCC staff. A brief has been designed for a contractor to quote on the furniture installation portion of the handbook. Design has been put out for quote.

Spend breakdown:
No current spend.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)

Photographic evidence – before / during:
The PDF shows the first draft of the proposed design guide element of the volunteer handbook. Please note this is only a draft. The design shows the installation of a pedestrian gate.  221217_Pedestrian Gate.pdf
Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

Photographic evidence will follow on final report.

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Project title:	Location:
Llechfaen Path Improvements	Llechfaen, Powys

Description of works completed:
The aim of the project is the improvement to public path network radiating from Llechfaen Village. Project has been surveyed, and contractor lined up. The Project Officer is having resistance from some of the landowners however, and there are a couple of anomalies with the definitive map to be resolved.

Spend breakdown:
No current spend on this project as yet. As detailed above there have been issues delaying the project and its now proposed that we defer £10,000 of the budget into 2023-2024, with the aim to complete the project in 2023-2024.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)

Photographic evidence – before / during:
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Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):
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Project title:	Location:
Llanbrynmair Community Project	Pennant, Llanbrynmair, Powys

Description of works completed:
Enhancements to the connectivity of public rights of way in Llanbrynmair community, with installation of a new footbridge at Pennant and public path Order and new infrastructure to improve connectivity of network around Llan and Llanbrynmair. Procurement has been completed and a contractor has been appointed to carry out the work. The new bridge should be in place by end of February, depending on weather conditions.

Spend breakdown:
No current spend.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)

Photographic evidence – before / during:
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Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

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Project title:	Location:
Dolfor Lock Bridge	Dolfor Lock Bridge, Montgomeryshire Canal, Newtown, Powys.

Description of works completed:
The aim of the project is the renovation of a Montgomery Canal Bridge, Dolfor Lock. Phase 1, 2022-23, of the project will be to carry out environmental surveys to determine species activity. Carry out comprehensive engineer survey to determine extent of works and costings. Design tender and procure contractor.

Spend breakdown:
No current spend.

Outputs: (i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)
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Photographic evidence – after (not needed if an uncompleted multiyear project):

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Project title:	Location:

Description of works completed:

Spend breakdown:
<i>(There is no need to include invoices, just give a brief account of how the grant was spent i.e. hire of machinery £xxx, contractor £xxx, aggregates/ground works £xxx, gates / other structures £xxx, etc, total £xxxx)</i>

Outputs:
<i>(i.e. section 7 of the workplan.)</i>
<i>(What are the final outputs? Were the expected outputs from the work plan achieved / surpassed? If a multiyear project highlight the outputs to date and advise if it is on track for project as a whole)</i>

Photographic evidence – before / during:

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