

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Milestones Statement

*and Public Rights of Way
Improvement Plan review*

2011-2012

April 2011

FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the thirteenth annual Milestones Statement for the Royal Borough, marking 13 years since this Council, as Highway Authority, became responsible for the management and maintenance of the borough's public rights of way.

I hope that residents and visitors to the borough will continue to enjoy these public rights of way as a means of accessing the borough's beautiful countryside, and as a healthy and stress-free way of getting about.

We will continue to work with all our partners, including the Local Access Forum, Parish and Town Councils, landowners, and path user groups (the East Berks Ramblers, the Disabled Ramblers, the British Horse Society and the Cyclists Touring Club) to achieve these goals, and I wish to thank all our partners for their continued co-operation, support and enthusiasm.

Councillor John Stretton

Chair of Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

April 2011

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	General	4
1.2	The Milestones approach	4
1.3	Partnership working	4
1.4	Resources	4
	Table 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish, April 2011	5
2	OBJECTIVES	6
2.2	Milestones Targets for 2011/12	6
2.3	Equal opportunities	7
2.4	Parish Paths Initiative	7
3	WELL MAINTAINED	9
3.1	Maintenance and Enforcement	9
3.2	Noteworthy current issues	9
3.3	Access for people with special needs	9
	Table 2 : Reported problems on Public Rights of Way in the Borough	10
4	LEGALLY DEFINED	11
4.1	Definitive Map and Statement	11
4.2	Modification Orders	11
4.3	Rights of way database.	11
4.4	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims)	11
4.5	Changes to the network	11
5	WELL PUBLICISED	12
5.1	Leaflets produced by the Council	12
5.2	Other books and publications	12
5.3	Guided walks and rides	12
5.4	Borough Website	12
6.	MONITORING AND REVIEW	13
6.1	Monitoring	13
6.2	Review	13

Appendix 1	
	Consultation on the Milestones Statement 14
Appendix 2	
	Statement of priorities for dealing with applications to amend the Definitive Map 15
Appendix 3	
	Statement of priorities for dealing with maintenance and enforcement problems 16
Appendix 4	
	Service standards 17
Appendix 5	
	List of claimed paths (as at April 2011) 18
Appendix 6	
	Achievement of Milestones Targets 19
Appendix 7	
	Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan: site specific proposals 23

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

The Royal Borough as the surveying and highway authority is responsible for the management and maintenance of the public rights of way network in the borough. There are over 300 km (approx. 190 miles) of public rights of way, about a third of the borough's total highway network (see Table 1 for lengths of rights of way by parish).

This Milestones Statement sets out the Council's priorities and targets for ensuring that the network is legally defined, properly maintained and well publicised. The Statement also incorporates an annual update on the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2005-2015.

1.2 The Milestones approach

It is widely recognised amongst local highway authorities that the 'milestones approach' is an effective means of prioritising public rights of way work and measuring performance against an agreed set of targets. The milestones approach involves:

- setting individual, realistic targets for the completion of each task, taking into account the available resources – these are the Milestones Targets (see page 6).
- monitoring progress towards achieving the Milestones Targets (see page 18).

1.3 Partnership working

The Council works closely with rights of way user groups, landowners, parish and town councils (through the Parish Paths Initiative), and the borough's Local Access Forum.

1.4 Resources

The Council employs a Public Rights of Way team of 2 full time and 1 part time public rights of way officers (total 2.5 fte).

In addition, the Council's Legal Services team provides legal support, and the Democratic Services team provides secretarial support for administering the borough's Local Access Forum.

Revenue Budget

The revenue budget for public rights of way works in 2010/11 (including staffing, admin. and support services) was **£209,480** including **£44,000** for routine maintenance, Parish Paths projects, information/promotion and contingency.

The approved revenue works budget for 2011/12 is **£45,000**

	<u>Approx. £</u>
Revenue works budget 2011/12	
Routine vegetation management (incl. programmed works contract)	27,000
Parish Paths projects	10,000
Information/promotion	2,000
Contingency	6,000
Total:	£45,000

Capital Budget

The capital budget for public rights of way works in 2010/11 was **£35,000**.

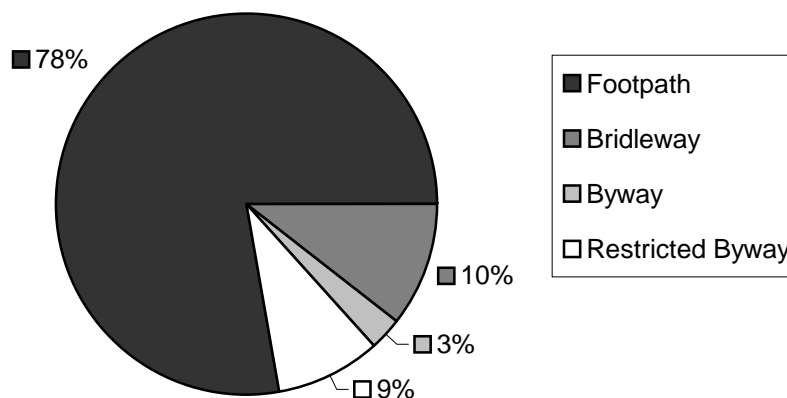
The capital budget for public rights of way works in 2011/12 is **£51,000**.

Additionally, a budget of **£19,000** has been allocated in the 2011/12 capital programme for implementation of the Millennium Walk project, at Henley Road, Hurley (including partnership funding of £1,750 from the East Berks Ramblers and £750 from Maidenhead Civic Society).

Table 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish, April 2011

Parish	Length (km)				Total	% of network	
	Footpath	Bridleway	Byway	Restricted Byway			
Bisham	13.146	2.524	-	2.228	17.898	5.878	%
Bray	36.663	9.999	2.184	0.682	49.528	16.266	%
Cookham	33.627	1.978	0.469	0.405	36.479	11.980	%
Cox Green	8.395	1.399	-	-	9.794	3.217	%
Datchet	5.129	-	-	-	5.129	1.684	%
Eton	18.06	3.561	-	-	21.621	7.101	%
Horton	1.201	1.2	-	-	2.401	0.789	%
Hurley	31.433	6.115	-	6.909	44.457	14.601	%
Maidenhead	29.553	0.439	-	2.596	32.588	10.703	%
Old Windsor	4.574	-	-	-	4.574	1.502	%
Shottesbrooke	3.24	-	-	1.612	4.852	1.593	%
Sunningdale	3.554	1.666	0.337	-	5.557	1.825	%
Sunninghill	10.771	-	3.593	1.299	15.663	5.144	%
Waltham St Lawrence	17.715	-	-	7.209	24.924	8.186	%
White Waltham	9.864	0.53	0.342	4.165	14.901	4.894	%
Windsor	3.342	1.994	1.644	0.259	7.239	2.377	%
Wraysbury	6.884	-	-	-	6.884	2.261	%
Total (km)	237.151	31.405	8.569	27.364	304.489	100	%

Path status across the network



2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 *Priorities for 2011/12*

The Royal Borough, in consultation with the interested parties listed in Appendix 1, considers that its priorities in public rights of way management in 2011/12 are as follows:

- Maintenance and enforcement: bringing public rights of way up to an acceptable standard for all users.
- Equality of service: ensuring that the needs of all users, regardless of race, disability, sexuality, age and religion, are taken into account.
- Ensure that the Thames Path National Trail is consistently safe and easy to use by all members of the public.
- Seek to complete the missing links in the Millennium Walk.
- Parish Paths Initiative (PPI) scheme: continuing to work with parish and town councils and volunteers.
- Partnership working: working with all interested parties in the management of public rights of way, (e.g. Local Access Forum, Parish Councils, Civic Societies, user groups and landowners)
- Claims: reduce the backlog of applications to add to or amend the Definitive Map.
- Changes to the network: seeking improvements in association with development and other proposals.
- Improvements to the network: seeking improvements for horse riders and people with restricted mobility.
- Consultation: ensuring effective early consultation with interested parties on proposed changes to the network, in accordance with government regulations, circulars and codes of practice.
- Liaise with landowners and occupiers on all public rights of way matters, including updating and advising landowners on changes in legislation.
- Maximise the use of recycled and reused materials in rights of way maintenance where practicable.

2.2 *Milestones Targets for 2011/12*

Well Maintained

WM 1: To ensure that all public rights of way are easy to use by members of the public. (This is the former Best Value Performance Indicator for public rights of way). Target for 2011/12 is **95%**.

WM 2: To carry out major surface improvements/vegetation clearance on **10** public rights of way.

WM 3: To repair or replace **5** bridges.

Legally Defined

LD 1: To determine a minimum of **4** applications to add public rights of way to the definitive map.

LD 2: To resolve a minimum of **1** significant error in the definitive map.

Well Publicised

WP 1: To produce **1** leaflet publicising access opportunities for people with special needs.

WP 2: To assist others to produce effective promotional material. Target: a minimum of **1** new publication.

Improving Access and Connectivity

AC 1: To achieve **2** new routes from the Rights of Way Improvement Plan projects.

AC 2: To make physical improvements including replacement of **20** stiles with gates or gaps, to facilitate use by those with special needs, the elderly, people with pushchairs etc.

Enforcement

EN 1: To resolve **30** enforcement issues.

2.3 Equal opportunities

The Council continues to seek improvements to public rights of way to enable use by a wide range of people with sensory or physical disabilities or learning difficulties.

The Council supports the establishment of routes suitable for use by disabled people, in consultation with the Council's Access Officer, the Access Advisory Forum, the Windsor and Maidenhead User Network (WAMU) and the Disabled Ramblers.

The Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan includes a number of policies and proposals relating to access for people with special needs.

2.4 Parish Paths Initiative

The Parish Paths Initiative (PPI) works with Parish and Town Council's to identify or carry out maintenance, improvement or promotional works on local path networks.

The British Horse Society, East Berks Ramblers and National Trust are also members of the Parish Paths Initiative. The scheme operates a rolling condition survey of all public rights of way in the borough, carried out in partnership with the East Berks Ramblers.

2.5 Local Access Forum

The Borough's Local Access Forum was set up in 2003 (under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) to advise the Council and other bodies on improvements to public rights of way, and promote sustainable access for the benefit of the environment and all in our community.

During **2010/11** the Forum has discussed and given advice to the Council on a variety of topics:

- The Milestones Targets for 2011/12
- Funding and resources for Public Rights of Way
- The Millennium Walk
- The Windsor Great Park Easy Access Route
- Use of volunteers for works on public rights of way
- The Chiltern Society 'Donate-a-gate' scheme
- Issues regarding public rights of way and planning applications
- Non-standard barriers on cycle paths
- Horse grazing issues

- Appointing observers from the LAF to visit and report back on the work of neighbouring forums.

The Forum also held an informal site meeting to inspect the proposed Windsor Great Park Easy Going Route.

The Forum publishes an annual report detailing its activities in July each year. The Forum membership details, agendas, minutes, and annual reports are available on the Local Access Forum website:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_local_access_forum.htm

2.6 Thames Path National Trail

Natural England promotes the Thames Path as one of 15 National Trails in England and Wales.

The Trail passes through Hurley, Cookham, Maidenhead, Eton, Windsor, Datchet and Old Windsor. In places the Trail crosses the Thames to follow the Buckinghamshire side of the river.

The Royal Borough recognises both the national and local importance of the Thames Path and is represented on the Trail's Management Group, which includes representatives from the relevant Highway Authorities, the Environment Agency, the National Trails Office and Natural England. The Thames Path Management Strategy 2006/11 is published and monitored by the Management Group.

The Council is also a member of the River Thames Alliance, which has published the Thames Waterway Plan 2006/11.

2.7 Equestrians

The main areas for improving the safety of riders and promoting the use of bridleways, byways and restricted byways include:

- Investigating possible upgrading of existing footpaths to bridleways, by negotiating with landowners and user groups, to improve road safety for horses and riders while taking into account the needs of other users. All negotiations must have clear resolutions, and ensure that all users are satisfied with any changes to the status of the footpath(s) before modifications take place, including adequate width and, where appropriate, segregation of users.

- Continuing with an initiative to designate highway verges as horse margins by identifying suitable areas adjacent to the highway and progressing with the necessary procedures to achieve this, together with developing changes in the maintenance of highway verges to enable their safe use.
- Development and promotion of circular riding routes.
- Improvements to gates to make them more 'horserider friendly'.

3 WELL MAINTAINED

3.1 *Maintenance and Enforcement*

Table 2 (over page) includes a summary of maintenance and enforcement problems reported in the period **April 2010 to March 2011** and the numbers of problems that remain outstanding.

Path condition surveys are carried out on a 3-year rolling programme, with approximately 1/3 of the network being surveyed each year. Volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers carry out these surveys on the Council's behalf.

During these surveys the volunteers also check whether problems that had previously been reported and entered onto the Council's rights of way database have since been resolved, and this helps to keep the records up-to-date.

Priority criteria for dealing with maintenance and enforcement problems are listed on page 15 of this Milestones Statement.

3.2 *Noteworthy current issues*

- Surface erosion and drainage problems
- Stiles on right of way
- Condition of bridges on rights of way

3.3 *Access for people with special needs*

When dealing with the provision of stiles and gates, an assessment is made to ensure that the appropriate type of barrier is used, and that wherever possible gaps are used rather than stiles or gates.

The Council places high priority on the use of effective designs of barrier to facilitate use by those with restricted mobility, the elderly, people with young children in pushchairs etc.

Service standards, including British Standards for path furniture, are set out on page 16 of this Milestones Statement.

3.4 *Local Transport Plan (LTP)*

The Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2005-15 forms an Annexe of the RBWM Local Transport Plan 2006-2011, which has been rolled forward to include 2011/12.

Table 2: Reported problems on Public Rights of Way in the Borough

	Outstanding at 31 st March 2010	Reported 1 st April 2010 to 31 st Feb 2011	1st April 2010 to 31st Feb 2011 closed	Total Outstanding at 31st Feb 2011
ENFORCEMENT				
Ploughing and lack of marking	0	7	7	0
Obstruction by crops	1	0	1	0
Fence encroachment	37	1	3	35
Fence obstruction	7	3	3	7
Building obstruction	3	0	0	3
Other obstructions	32	2	8	26
Stiles	51	4	14	41
Gates	11	2	1	12
Bulls/ other animal problems	0	1	1	0
Unauthorised use by horses	6	1	3	4
Unauthorised vehicular use	4	5	2	7
Electric fencing	2	0	1	1
Misleading notices	1	0	1	0
Intimidation	0	1	1	0
Overhanging vegetation	27	2	5	24
Other Enforcement Problems	36	6	6	36
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT:	218	35	57	196
MAINTENANCE				
Vegetation	13	30	26	17
Rutting	5	1	2	4
Drainage	14	6	9	11
Fallen trees	2	26	21	7
Erosion	27	8	13	22
Tree problems	6	6	7	5
Bridges	27	4	8	23
Safety barriers	9	0	2	7
Steps	2	0	1	1
Roadside signposting	51	18	61	8
Signposting at path junctions	57	7	58	6
Waymarking	55	11	56	10
Rubbish/ waste	8	7	11	4
Other Maintenance Problems	60	15	52	23
TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	336	139	327	148
TOTALS OF MAINTENANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	554	174	384	344

Routine Maintenance: work items completed 01/04/2010 – 31/02/2011: (Works that would previously have been listed in the main table as having been reported and resolved over the report period)	356
--	------------

* most problems of waste/ rubbish are dealt with by the waste management section and are not recorded here

4 LEGALLY DEFINED

4.1 *Definitive Map and Statement*

The Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way are legal documents that provide conclusive evidence of the existence and status of public rights of way. It is therefore important that these documents are kept up to date and accurate.

The Map and Statement was last updated in 2008, to include all legal changes made since the previous Map was published in year 2000. Any subsequent changes are shown by Modification Orders (see 4.2 below)

Copies of the Map and Statement are available for inspection in Maidenhead and Windsor central libraries, Borough Council offices, and can be viewed on the borough website.

Copies are also held by user groups and relevant extracts are held by Parish Councils.

4.2 *Modification Orders*

Definitive Map Modification Orders are made to update the definitive map, to show the effect of legal changes to public rights of way. Copies of the Orders are sent to all those who hold copies of the Definitive Map and Statement, so that up to date information is available

4.3 *Rights of way database.*

The Definitive Map is shown on the Council's GIS system. The Council also maintains a comprehensive public rights of way database (Countryside Access Management System CAMS). Information is held on path maintenance records, condition surveys, reported problems, landownership details, and path furniture such as stiles, gates, bridges and signposts.

The Council also holds a comprehensive database of photographic records covering many of the public rights of way in the borough.

These databases enable the rights of way officers to record, analyse and prioritise problems, and respond to public requests for information quickly and effectively.

4.4 *Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims)*

There are 4 outstanding claims listed in Appendix 5 of this Milestones Statement. A statement of

priorities for dealing with claims is shown in Appendix 2.

4.5 *Changes to the network*

Applications for changes to the network are occasionally received from landowners or developers, and can also be initiated by the Council where they are considered to be in the public interest.

Planning applications are checked by Planning Development Control officers who consult the Public Rights of Way team on applications that may affect public rights of way. Where appropriate, conditions and informatives are then included in planning consents.

Policy R14 in the borough's Local Plan states that: "***The Borough Council will safeguard and enhance the public rights of way network and recreational cycle routes***"

5 WELL PUBLICISED

5.1 Leaflets produced by the Council

- Public Rights of Way information booklet (*for landowners and path users*)
- Public Rights of Way and your Gardens, Hedges and Trees (*information leaflet for householders adjacent to rights of way*)
- The Green Way
- Ascot and Sunninghill Circular Walk
- Knowl Hill Bridleway Circuit
- Cookham Bridleway Circuit
- Cycling in Windsor and Maidenhead
- Cookham Easy Going Route

All the above leaflets are available from the Borough Council free of charge

5.2 Other books and publications

Sunningdale, Bray and Datchet Parish Councils have produced their own walks leaflets, with help from the Borough Council through Parish Paths Initiative:

- “Walk, discover, enjoy - your Sunningdale” (Sunningdale Parish Council)
- “Parish Millennium Rights of Way Map” (Bray Parish Council)
- Holyport health walk (Bray Parish Council)
- “Foot and Cycle Paths in and around Datchet” (Datchet Parish Council)

(the above leaflets are available from the Parish Councils free of charge)

The Environment Agency has published a leaflet showing the paths along the Jubilee River (*available from the EA 08708 506506*)

The East Berks Ramblers, the British Horse Society, Sustrans and commercial publishers have produced a number of leaflets, booklets and books promoting routes along public rights of way locally. These are widely available in libraries and bookshops.

5.3 Guided walks and rides

Guided walks and rides encourage the public to enjoy the countryside. The Ramblers organize a programme of walks for its members and the general public, and the British Horse Society organize various rides and events using the boroughs public rights of way and minor roads network.

5.4 Borough Website

The Borough’s Public Rights of Way web pages can be accessed directly at

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_index.htm

The web pages contain detailed information on public rights of way, including definitions of the various types of public rights of way, landowner responsibilities, legal changes to the network, contact details, and electronic maps of all rights of way in the borough.

Recently an interactive copy of the full Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way has been made available online.

The web pages also include a register of applications for Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO’s), together with application forms and guidance notes for DMMO’s or diversion or stopping up orders, a register of Highways Act declarations made by landowners, and forms for reporting problems on rights of way.

The web pages also contain information about the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan, the Parish Paths Initiative scheme and the Milestones Statement. Public Rights of Way leaflets and publications are also available to download.

The web pages include a section on the Local Access Forum, containing annual reports, agendas, minutes and background materials from previous meetings, and details of the membership and Terms of Reference of the Forum.

The web pages are regularly updated and all new leaflets or publications will be produced in a format that enables publication on the website.

A review of the website provision is planned for 2011, including a revamp of the Local Access Forum pages.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

6.1 *Monitoring*

The public rights of way database is used to provide a regular assessment of progress towards individual targets.

Prior to 1st April 2008, the Council had been required to publish a Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) for public rights of way: **“The percentage of the total length of footpaths and other rights of way which were easy to use by members of the public”**.

Although no longer a nationally required Performance Indicator, the indicator does form part of the borough’s Local Transport Plan set of local indicators, and also provides a useful benchmark for assessing the condition of the network. The indicator is calculated using a methodology devised by the County Surveyors Society. The indicator result for the borough in 2010/11 was **94.9 %**.

From 2011 onwards, the indicator will be based upon information provided by volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers, who undertake condition surveys on a 3-year rolling programme, with approximately 1/3 of the network being surveyed each year.

6.2 *Review*

The Council is committed to working with all interested parties in carrying out public rights of way work in the borough.

This Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan will continue be reviewed and published annually and the Milestones targets will be discussed with the Local Access Forum and other interested parties so that co-ordinated priorities can be adopted.

The Public Rights of Way team also produce a 6-monthly Path Progress Report, which provides updates on specific path improvements. These reports are submitted to the Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel in March and September each year, circulated to the Local Access Forum and published on the borough website.

APPENDIX 1

Consultation on the Milestones Statement

The following organisations were consulted on the 2011/12 Milestones Statement

- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
- All Parish and Town Councils in the borough
- British Horse Society
- British Driving Society
- Cyclists' Touring Club
- Sustrans
- Open Spaces Society
- Thames Path National Trails Office
- National Farmers' Union
- Country Landowners and Business Association

- The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Access Forum, whose members represent a variety of interest groups including land management interests, health issues, walking, cycling, horse riding and disabled access issues:
 - East Berks Ramblers
 - Disabled Ramblers
 - Council for the Protection of Rural England
 - Crown Estate
 - National Trust
 - Woodland Trust
 - Royal East Berks Agricultural Association

APPENDIX 2

Statement of priorities for dealing with applications to amend the Definitive Map

The Council aims to process uncontested applications for Public Path Orders and Definitive Map Modification Orders (claims) within 1 year of receipt.

Applications for Orders to amend the Definitive Map and Statement (claims) will be prioritised on the basis of the following factors:

Highest Priority: Closure very likely (e.g. area subject to planning application).

Path currently blocked by planting, fencing etc. which could be removed.

Path currently blocked by permanent structure e.g. building.

Possible threat to path, and/or partial blocking likely.

Lowest Priority: No recognised threat, and route useable by the public.

APPENDIX 3

Statement of priorities for dealing with maintenance and enforcement problems

Maintenance and enforcement problems will be prioritised on the basis of the following factors:

Safety of users

Level of usage

Extent of obstruction of definitive line (i.e. completely obstructed or partially obstructed)

Benefit to public once resolved

Cost/time effectiveness in resolving problem

Number/level of complaints

Potential for deterioration of the problem

Age of the problem

Note: for efficient working practice, lower priority problems will be dealt with alongside higher priority problems where appropriate, for example if they are in the same locality or involve the same landowner. Lower priority problems will also be tackled as required in order to meet specific targets.

APPENDIX 4

Service standards

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has the following key aims in relation to public rights of way:

- To ensure that the borough's public rights of way network is properly maintained and well publicised
- To ensure that public rights of way are safeguarded and enhanced
- To help landowners and users to understand their responsibilities and rights
- To consult and work with interested parties to achieve the provision of a well-maintained and signed network of public rights of way

We will liaise with and involve:

- Local Access Forum
- Parish and Town Councils
- Natural England
- East Berks Ramblers
- Disabled Ramblers
- British Horse Society
- British Driving Society
- Cyclists' Touring Club
- Sustrans
- Vehicle User Groups
- National Farmers' Union
- Country Land & Business Association
- Thames Path Management Group
- Any other interested parties

Comply with **British Standards** on all new structures and furniture, and where possible, upon replacement of existing structures or furniture. BS 5709-2006 gaps, gates and stiles; order of preference; a) gap, b) gate, c) kissing gate, d) stile.

Barbed wire, razor wire, farm type electrical fences and suchlike should not normally be used in the vicinity of structures covered by this standard, but where these wires are necessary then assessment should be made of the effect they have on the safety and convenience of people in the vicinity.

A condensed version of BS 5709-2006 produced by the Pittecroft Trust is available on request from the public rights of way team.

Carry out:

- A condition survey of each path every three years, based on a rolling programme of six-monthly surveys (in partnership with East Berks Ramblers Association).
- An inspection of rights of way in a dangerous condition within one working day of notification, make safe within one working day of inspection, and inform correspondents of the results within three working days.

Use our powers:

- To enforce and remove any obstructions to the public rights of way network within three months of inspection, and enforce compliance with the Rights of Way Act 1990 (ploughing etc) within 6 weeks of inspection, and give consideration to all available statutory powers including prosecutions where appropriate.
- To process uncontested applications for Public Path Orders and Definitive Map Modification Orders (claims) within 1 year of receipt.
- To inform the correspondents of the reasons for any delay beyond the periods stated above.

Publish:

- The definitive map and statement every five years
- Information leaflets and updates regularly

APPENDIX 5

List of claimed paths (as at March 2011)

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Comment
			From	To	
Shottesbrooke	FP 501	2007	Shottesbrooke FP 12	Waltham St Lawrence FP 38	Claim dismissed in 2010, but appeal pending, currently with the Planning Inspectorate.
White Waltham	FP 501	2008	White Waltham RB 4	White Waltham FP 9	Order made in 2010, but case has been referred to the Planning Inspectorate following objections.
Cox Green	FP 501	2009	Culley Way	Farmers Close	Claim awaiting determination
Wraysbury	FP 501-505	2009	Various paths at Thamesfield		Claims awaiting determination

No formal applications have been received in respect of the paths listed below, however they were included in a list of paths submitted to Berkshire County Council by the Ramblers Association in 1977 following publication of the Draft Revised Map in 1976. These paths are therefore listed here for information only.

Parish	Ref. no	date	Path description: from	to
Eton	FP 502	1977	North end of Somerville Rd between numbers 23 and 25	FP 8 Eton
Eton	FP 505	1977	W end of Common Lane	Bell Lane at entrance to Bell Farm
Eton	FP 506	1977	Bend in FP46	Common Lane
Maidenhead	FP 508	1977	Moorfield Terrace	FP 4 Maidenhead
Maidenhead	FP 506	1977	Ray St	FP 4 Maidenhead
Maidenhead	FP 523	1977	Castle Hill	The Crescent
Wraysbury	FP 500	1977	Staines Road	River Thames

APPENDIX 6

Achievement of Milestones Targets

MILESTONES TARGET

Up to end of Feb 2011

<p>WM1 To ensure that all public rights of way are easy to use by members of the public (former Best Value Performance Indicator 178). Target for 2009/2010: 95%</p>	<p>94.9%</p>
<p>WM2 To carry out major surface improvements or vegetation clearance on 10 public rights of way. (FP =footpath, BR = bridleway, RB = restricted byway)</p> <p><u>Path number</u></p> <p>Bray BR 64 (Cruch Lane):</p> <p>Walt St L RB 35 (Uncles Lane):</p> <p>Maidenhead FP 39 (off Lime Walk)</p> <p>Bray FP 61 (off Tarbay Lane)</p> <p>Hurley FP 30 (off Burchetts Green Road)</p> <p>Maidenhead FP 22 (Garretts Lane)</p> <p>Maidenhead FP 46 (Muddy Lane)</p> <p>Maidenhead FPs 23A & 23B (off Laggan Road)</p> <p>Sunningdale FP 3 (London Road to Bedford Lane)</p> <p>Sunninghill FP 1 (Church Path)</p> <p>Sunninghill FP 5 (off Church Lane)</p> <p>Cookham FP 54 (Thames Path off Mill Lane)</p>	<p><u>Improvements</u></p> <p>Surface improvement (recycled wood product)</p> <p>Surface improvement (recycled wood product)</p> <p>Surface improvement (limestone)</p> <p>Surface improvement (limestone)</p> <p>Surface improvement (limestone)</p> <p>Major clearance works</p> <p>Major clearance works</p> <p>Clearance works to improve sightlines/safety</p> <p>Surface improvement (limestone)</p> <p>Surface and drainage improvement</p> <p>Surface and boardwalk improvement</p> <p>Surface improvement (limestone)</p> <p>Total: 13</p>
<p>WM3 To repair or replace 5 bridges.</p> <p><u>Path number</u></p> <p>Hurley FP 4 and 5 (Frogmill Farm)</p> <p>Bray FP 16 (x2)(off Blackbird Lane and Long Lane)</p>	<p><u>Improvements</u></p> <p>Footbridge parapets repaired.</p> <p>Footbridge deck/handrail replaced.</p>

<p>Bray FP 30 (off Primrose Lane)</p> <p>Walt. St L FP 34 (x3) (off Hungerford Lane)</p>	<p>Ramp installed and anti-slip surface added to decking</p> <p>Improvements to 3 footbridges</p> <p>Total: 8</p>
<p>LEGALLY DEFINED</p>	
<p>LD1 To determine a minimum of 4 applications to add public rights of way to the definitive map (claims).</p>	<p>1 claim determined</p> <p><i>(White Waltham FP 501 Definitive Map Modification Order made 30th July 2010, objections pending)</i></p>
<p>LD2 To resolve a minimum of 1 significant error in definitive map.</p>	<p>0</p>
<p>WELL PUBLICISED</p>	
<p>WP1 To produce 1 leaflet publicising access opportunities for people with special needs.</p>	<p>Windsor Great Park “Easy Going Route” leaflet currently in preparation</p>
<p>WP2 To assist others to produce effective promotional material. Target for 2009/10: a minimum of 1 new publication.</p>	<p>Contributed to the Thames Path National Trail website administered by the National Trails Office</p> <p>Contributed to the National Trust Maidenhead and Cookham Commons leaflet</p>
<p>IMPROVING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY</p>	
<p>AC1 To achieve 2 new routes from the Rights of Way Improvement Plan projects</p>	<p>1 new bridleway created (<i>Horton BR 5, ROWIP project 2.16 (m)</i>)</p>
<p>AC2 To make physical improvements, including replacement of 20 stiles with gates, to facilitate use by those with special needs, the elderly, people with pushchairs etc.</p> <p>Improvements</p> <p>Bray Footpath 59 (off Oakley Green Road)</p> <p>Bray FP 14 (Long Lane to Touchan End Road)</p> <p>Bray FP 18 (off Long Lane)</p> <p>Cookham FP 36 (Cock Marsh)</p> <p>Cookham FP 48 (The Green Way)</p> <p>Cookham FP 60 (Thames Path)</p> <p>Hurley FP 17 (Prospect Hill)</p> <p>Hurley FP 30 (off Burchetts Green Road)</p> <p>Maidenhead FP 40 (off Pinkneys Road)</p> <p>Walt St. L. FP 31 (off Pool Lane)</p>	<p>Improvements</p> <p>1 gate repaired and improved</p> <p>Surface improvements at 1 gate</p> <p>1 stile replaced with kissing gate</p> <p>Repairs to 2 easy access gates</p> <p>Steps repaired/improved</p> <p>Surface improvements at gateway</p> <p>2 substandard gates replaced or repaired, handrail installed, steps replaced by ramp.</p> <p>1 stile replaced with swing gate.</p> <p>3 barriers removed</p> <p>5 stiles replaced with 3 kissing gates and 2 gaps.</p>

<p>Waltham St Lawrence Footpath 13 (Plough Lane to Mire Lane)</p>	<p>4 stiles replaced with kissing gates</p> <p>Total: 22 access improvements including replacement of 11 stiles with gaps or gates</p>
<p>ENFORCEMENT</p>	
<p>EN 1 To resolve 30 enforcement issues</p> <p>Bray Footpath 16 (off Long Lane): <i>Hazardous railings at footbridge</i></p> <p>Bray Footpaths 25 & 28 (off Forest Green Road): <i>Paths ploughed and not reinstated.</i></p> <p>Bray Bridleway 29 (Primrose Lane): <i>Illegal vehicular use of bridleway.</i></p> <p>Bray Footpaths 52, 53 & 54 (at Willow Farm): <i>Paths ploughed and not reinstated.</i></p> <p>Cookham Footpath 25 (Dean Lane to Winter Hill): <i>Misleading notices (bulls).</i></p> <p>Cookham Footpath 54 (at end of Mill Lane): <i>Horses using footpath.</i></p> <p>Cookham FP 55 (Thames Path from Cookham to Boulter's Lock) <i>Barbed wire fencing fallen into path.</i></p> <p>Cox Green Footpath 8 (off Thrift Lane): <i>Damage to path surface by farm vehicles</i></p> <p>Cox Green BR 13/Bray BR 11 (Thrift Lane): <i>Damage to path surface by farm vehicles</i></p> <p>Eton Footpath 1 (Thames Path at Eton Wick): <i>Horse riders using cycleway</i></p> <p>Hurley Footpath 17 (Prospect Hill): <i>Encroachment and narrowing of the path</i></p> <p>Hurley FP 45 (off Warren Row Road): <i>Footpath obstructed</i></p> <p>Hurley FP 63 (Mill Lane to Hurley Lock): <i>Fence spikes adjacent to path.</i></p> <p>Maidenhead Footpath 48 (Bath Road to Altwood Road): <i>Encroachment onto width of path.</i></p> <p>Maidenhead Footpath 48 (Bath Road to Altwood Road): <i>Barbed wire over path.</i></p> <p>Maidenhead Restricted Byway 72 (Nightingale Lane): <i>Overgrown hedges</i></p> <p>Maidenhead BR 46 (Bath Road to Allenby Road): <i>Rubbish dumping.</i></p> <p>Maidenhead FP 22 (Cookham Road to North Town Moor): <i>Rubbish dumping.</i></p> <p>Maidenhead FPs 23A & 23B (off Laggan Road): <i>Rubbish dumping.</i></p> <p>Old Windsor Footpath 8 (Church Road to Meadow Close): <i>Rubbish dumping.</i></p> <p>Sunninghill Footpath 16 (Kennel Ride to Kennel Avenue): <i>Cycles using footpath.</i></p> <p>White Waltham Footpath 15: (Waltham Place Farm): <i>Bull in field.</i></p>	<p><u>Resolved</u></p> <p>Railings removed by landowner.</p> <p>Paths reinstated by landowner.</p> <p>Works in conjunction with farmer to prevent vehicular use of the bridleway.</p> <p>Paths reinstated by landowner.</p> <p>Misleading notices removed by Council.</p> <p>"No Horse Riding" signs installed.</p> <p>Fence replaced by landowner.</p> <p>Path reinstated by landowner.</p> <p>Path reinstated by landowner.</p> <p>Signs installed to keep horse riders to side of the surfaced path.</p> <p>Resolved during path widening and improvement works.</p> <p>Obstruction cleared by landowner</p> <p>Fence spikes removed by landowner</p> <p>Land charges informative placed on file.</p> <p>Barbed wire removed by landowner.</p> <p>Overgrown hedges cut back by landowner.</p> <p>Rubbish cleared by householders</p> <p>Rubbish cleared by householders</p> <p>Rubbish cleared by householders</p> <p>Rubbish cleared by householders.</p> <p>"No Cycling" signs installed.</p> <p>Bull removed from field by landowner.</p>

Waltham St Lawrence Footpath 13 (Plough Lane to Mire Lane): <i>Path ploughed and not reinstated.</i>	Path reinstated by landowner.
Wraysbury Footpath 8C (at Wraysbury Boat House): <i>Ditching arisings and junk metal over path.</i>	Path has now been cleared by landowner and dividing fence installed to prevent further encroachments.
Wraysbury Footpath 8C (to Old Ferry Drive): <i>Path blocked by palisade fencing and stored woodchips</i>	Fencing and woodchips removed from path by landowner.
Wraysbury FP 9 (St. Andrews Close to Magna Carta Lane): <i>Fencing collapsed onto path.</i>	Fence replaced by landowner
	Total: 30

APPENDIX 7

Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan: site specific proposals

In the course of conducting research in preparing the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan, many site-specific suggestions for network improvements were made. The suggestions have been categorised as follows:

Category One

It is considered that the proposal may be achievable within the period of the Plan (i.e. 2005-2015), provided that current staffing and budgetary levels are maintained. Third party consent may also be required.

Category Two

Initial feasibility study recommended, and/or the proposal may only be achievable with additional internal or external funding. It may also require third party consent.

Note: This is not intended to be a complete list of schemes for the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan, and other schemes may be identified during the period of the plan that were not listed in the document approved in 2005.

The proposals **shown in bold** are currently being investigated by the public rights of way team.

Updates are *shown in italics*.

Category One

Ref	Proposal (not in priority order)	Parish
1.1	Develop a route for cycling and horse riding under the A404 from Dungrove Hill Lane to Hurley via Hurley Lane utilising existing tunnel and track (Bisham Footpath 20) at the golf course. Seek upgrade of route through tunnel and Bisham Footpath 20 to Hurley Lane to definitive bridleway. (<i>March 2009 update: the tunnel under the A404, and Bisham FP 20, have been upgraded to permitted bridleway</i>)	Bisham
1.2	Secure public rights on the crossing over the Thames at Bray utilising the Summerleaze owned bridge: <i>The planning consent for the gravel conveyor includes a requirement that following cessation of use of the conveyor the footpath-cycleway bridge is dedicated as a public highway.</i> <i>(March 2011 update) improvements to the paths either side of the bridge are to be carried out in conjunction with improved access to Eton-Dorney Lake for the 2012 Olympics.</i>	Bray
1.3	Create a circular route around Eton and the Boveney area for mobility restricted users <i>(March 2011 update): improvements to paths in this area are to be carried out in conjunction with access to Eton-Dorney Lake for the 2012 Olympics, facilitating use by mobility restricted users.</i>	Eton
1.4	Extend Sunningdale Footpath 13 through to Sunninghill (<i>March 2009 update: Initial feasibility studies have indicated that the potential benefits of this project would not justify the cost</i>)	Sunningdale, Sunninghill and Ascot

2.8	<p>Possible improvements / extension to the Green Way and upgrading of some sections to permit use by cyclists</p> <p><i>(March 2010 update: surface improvements completed on Maidenhead FP 84, Ray Mill Road West to Town Moor.</i></p> <p><i>(March 2011 update) improvements to Green Lane at Braywick Park are to be carried out in conjunction with access to Eton-Dorney Lake for the 2012 Olympics, facilitating use by cyclists and mobility restricted users.</i></p>	<p>Various</p> <p>Maidenhead and Bray</p>
2.9	<p>Improve and ensure long term accessibility (including possible bank repair / diversion) of:</p> <p>(a) Thames Path from Boulter's Lock to Cookham <i>(March 2010 update: river bank repairs, erosion control and path reinstatement works carried out)</i></p> <p>(b) Datchet Footpath 8 <i>(March 2009 update: handrails installed by landowner in 2008)</i></p>	<p>Cookham</p> <p>Datchet</p>
2.10	Make the Thames Path and associated paths accessible to mobility restricted users from Temple to Frog Mill via Hurley	Bisham & Hurley
2.11	Route from Mill Lane to Odney Road, Cookham – perhaps across Odney Common <i>(March 2009 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to create this new pedestrian link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i>	Cookham
2.12	Access improvements at Cookham Lock to provide high degree of accessibility to the site.	Cookham
2.13	Creation of a path parallel to the Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook common	
2.14	Upgrade Kennel Lane (Cookham Footpath 22) to a bridleway <i>(March 2009 update: one of the affected landowners has declined a proposal to upgrade this footpath to bridleway: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i>	
2.15	<p>Create the following paths from the 1999 Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Plan:</p> <p>(a) a path from Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path (see 2.2 c. above)</p> <p>(b) a route from the Causeway at Braywick Park to Old Mill Lane via Bray Bridge</p> <p>(c) a crossing of dry flood ditch, Town Moor, Maidenhead as part of Green Way</p> <p>(d) make the Green Way accessible to mobility restricted users</p>	<p>Cookham</p> <p>Bray</p> <p>Maidenhead</p> <p>Maidenhead & Cookham</p>

2.16	<p>Create the following paths from the 1981 Horton, Datchet and Wraysbury Local Plan:</p> <p>(a) footpath from Datchet Footpath 7 southwest around the Queen Mother Reservoir, over the Horton Road (B376) to the railway line <i>(March 2011 update, see 2.17 below)</i></p> <p>(b) footpath from Datchet Footpath 5 running southeast on the northern side of the railway line to Datchet Footpath 6</p> <p>(c) footpath along northern side of the Thames from Albert Bridge linking with Datchet Footpath 6</p> <p>(d) footpath from Welley Road, Wraysbury along southern side of the railway line to Wraysbury Footpath 6</p> <p>(e) footpath along Park Avenue, Wraysbury to Old Ferry Drive</p> <p>(f) footpath from northern end of Douglas Lane (at termination of Wraysbury Footpath 6) to The Green</p> <p>(g) footpath running from High Street car park in Wraysbury, around southern part of lakes parallel to Staines Road to Staines Road near termination of Wraysbury Footpath 4</p>	Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury
	<p>(h) footpath running from Horton Footpath 3 around northern part of lakes to Stanwell Road</p> <p>(i) footpath from Stanwell Road, northeast along Mill Lane, running east along the Colne Brook to the Horton Parish Boundary</p> <p>(j) footpath from Station Road, Wraysbury, to Stanwell Road running along the western bank of the Colne Brook.</p> <p>(k) footpath from Hythe End Lane to southern end of Ferry Lane (Wraysbury Footpath 3)</p> <p>(l) bridleway from Embankment to Magna Carta Lane in Wraysbury</p> <p>(m) footpath from Horton Bridleway 4 to Horton Road <i>(March 2011 update: new bridleway constructed and in use)</i></p> <p>(n) bridleway from Horton Road, alongside the Queen Mother Reservoir to Majors Farm Road (B370)</p>	Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury Horton Datchet
2.17	<p>Access around the Queen Mother reservoir, Datchet</p> <p><i>(March 2011 update: discussions are being held with the landowner on a proposal to create a circular path around the perimeter of the Queen Mother Reservoir)</i></p>	
2.18	Disabled friendly routes should be investigated at Eton, Sunninghill and Ascot, Sunningdale, Knowl Hill, White Waltham and Hurley Lock	Eton, etc
2.19	Upgrade Jubilee River paths to allow horse riding	
2.20	A crossing over the Thames across Hurley Lock and weirs	Hurley

2.21	<p>Secure a continuation of the Thames Path in Maidenhead beside the river bank from the landing steps opposite Thames Hotel to Bridge Gardens</p> <p><i>(March 2010 update: the promenade opposite the Thames Hotel was extended in 2007, however a gap of approximately 30m remains in order to complete the link to Bridge Gardens)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2011 update: funding options for completing the remaining section of missing link are being explored in discussion with the Ramblers)</i></p>	<p>Maidenhead</p> <p>Maidenhead</p>
2.22	A footbridge from Boulter's Island to east bank of the Thames, which would link the Thames Path and Jubilee River, and the walks in Taplow	
2.23	Create a link between Braywick Park and Bray Road and Maidenhead Footpath 1	
2.24	<p>(a) Upgrade Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead Footpath 30) to a cycle route</p> <p>(b) <i>March 2009 addition: Reinstate the definitive width of Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead FP 30) to provide segregated route for cyclists</i></p>	
2.25	Create a path from Ascot station westwards parallel to the railway line to Kings Ride. <i>(March 2007 update: Network Rail is unwilling to consider this proposed footpath creation)</i>	Sunninghill and Ascot
2.26	Work with Wokingham DC to upgrade Waltham St. Lawrence Footpath 9 / Ruscombe Footpath 4 for horse riding use	Waltham St Lawrence
2.27	Create of a path from Great Wood, White Waltham, south of the B3024 road to the track at Pond Wood Farm	White Waltham
2.28	Establish a new path from Windmills (White Waltham Footpath 20) to Howe Lane near Howlane Bridge	
2.29	Create a route for carriage drivers from Beenhams Road in White Waltham to Mare Lane in Binfield.	
2.30	Create of a path between Sutherland Grange public open space, via the rear of the Centrica complex, and the access road to the Racecourse Marina	Windsor
2.31	New route along the Colne Brook	Wraysbury
2.32	<p>[Added 10/1/2007] Divert Hurley Footpath 47 and Hurley Footpath 49 to improve A4 Road Crossings.</p> <p><i>(March 2009 update: The suggested diversions have not been progressed as the proposed diverted routes of the footpaths are across common land with existing public access rights).</i></p>	Hurley

Further information on public rights of way in the Royal Borough, including maps of all the paths and ways, and an electronic version of this document, can be found on the Borough website:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_index.htm

**Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Environmental Services Directorate
Highways and Engineering Unit,
Town Hall, St Ives Road,
Maidenhead
Berks SL6 1RF**

If you require information in an alternative format please contact the Public Rights of Way Team on 01628-683800