

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Milestones Statement

*and Public Rights of Way
Improvement Plan review*

2013-2014

April 2013

FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the fifteenth annual Milestones Statement for the Royal Borough, marking 15 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 (including 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 2013

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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 19).

1.3 Partnership working

The Council works closely with public rights of way user groups, landowners, parish and town councils, local conservation volunteers, and the borough's Local Access Forum.

Two Parish Councils (Cookham and Old Windsor) undertake routine clearance of vegetation from public rights of way in their area on behalf of the borough, as part of the Parish Paths Partnership.

During 2012/13, volunteers from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and the Windsor and Maidenhead Conservation Volunteers (WMCV) carried out **8 work days** on public rights of way in the borough attended by a total of **47 volunteers**, and volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers undertook **1bc hours** of work, including path surveys and practical works.

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 (*Shared Legal Solutions*) provide legal support, and the Democratic Services team provides secretarial support for administering the Rights of Way and Highways Licensing Panel and the Local Access Forum.

Revenue Budget

2012/13	2013/14
£47,000	£60,000

This includes an annual vegetation clearance contract of programmed works, and additional reactive works such as clearance of fallen trees and branches from public rights of way.

Capital Budget (Rights of Way general)

2012/13	2013/14
£40,000	£40,000

This includes surface improvements or repairs to public rights of way that have become eroded, rutted or poached, and access improvements such as replacement of step-stiles with more accessible gates.

Capital Budget (Rights of Way Bridges)

2012/13	2013/14
£21,000	£50,000

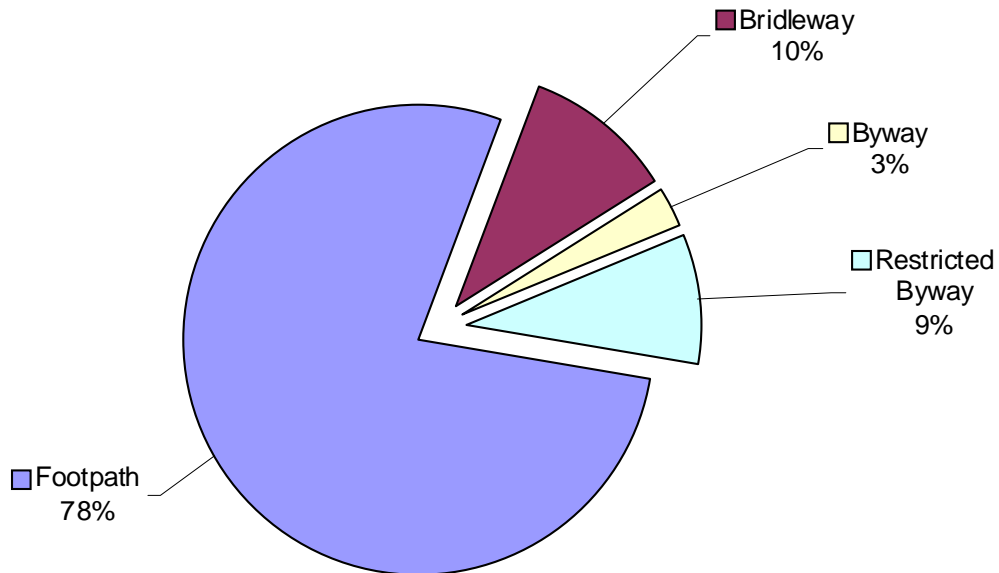
The Council has maintenance responsibility for approximately 75 bridges on footpaths and bridleways on public rights of way in the borough. These bridges are inspected on a rolling programme by the Council's consultants Jacobs, and remedial safety works identified (e.g. repair or replacement of parapets, decking or supports, or complete replacement, usually by kit bridges.)

In some cases this work is reactive, in response to bridge damage caused by public use, flooding, or general wear and tear.

Table 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish, April 2013

Parish	Length (km)				Total km	% of network	
	Footpath	Bridleway	Byway	Restricted Byway			
Bisham	13.146	2.524	-	2.228	17.898	5.84	%
Bray	36.665	9.999	2.184	0.682	49.530	16.16	%
Cookham	33.611	1.980	0.469	0.405	36.465	11.90	%
Cox Green	8.395	1.399	-	-	9.794	3.20	%
Datchet	4.761	-	-	-	4.761	1.55	%
Eton	18.289	3.561	-	-	21.850	7.13	%
Horton	1.200	1.254	-	-	2.454	0.80	%
Hurley	31.432	6.115	-	6.909	44.456	14.51	%
Maidenhead	29.619	0.439	-	2.596	32.654	10.66	%
Old Windsor	4.574	-	-	-	4.574	1.49	%
Shottesbrooke	3.240	-	-	1.612	4.852	1.58	%
Sunningdale	3.554	1.666	0.337	-	5.557	1.81	%
Sunninghill	10.771	-	3.592	1.299	15.662	5.11	%
Waltham St Lawrence	17.728	-	-	7.209	24.937	8.14	%
White Waltham	11.011	0.530	0.342	4.165	16.048	5.24	%
Windsor	4.178	1.994	1.644	0.259	8.075	2.64	%
Wraysbury	6.876	-	-	-	6.876	2.24	%
Total (km)	239.050	31.461	8.568	27.364	306.443	100.00	%

Path status across the network



2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 *Priorities for 2013/14*

The Royal Borough, in consultation with the interested parties listed in Appendix 1, considers that its priorities in public rights of way management in 2013/14 are as follows:

- Maintenance and enforcement: bring all public rights of way up to an acceptable standard for all users.
- Encourage and support the involvement of volunteers in the maintenance and improvement of public rights of way.
- 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.
- Partnership working: working with all interested parties in the management of public rights of way, (e.g. Local Access Forum, Parish Councils, Civic Societies, residents associations, user groups and landowners)
- Claims: reduce the backlog of applications to add to or amend the Definitive Map.
- Changes to the network: seek improvements in association with development and other proposals.
- Improvements: seek improvements to the network for horse riders and people with restricted mobility.
- Ensure 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 2013/14*

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 2013/14 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 actively progress 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.

[2013/14 update: the Local Access Forum recommends changing this target to read "**Create 1 new strategic path, either public right of way or permitted, to fill identified gaps in the public rights of way network**"

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 and annual Milestones Targets include a number of policies and proposals relating to access for people with special needs.

2.4 Parish Paths Initiative/Big Society

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. All Parish Council's in the Borough and Eton Town Council participate in the PPI scheme.

Additionally, two Parish Councils (Cookham and Old Windsor) undertake routine vegetation clearance on the public rights of way networks in their area. Discussions are being held with other Parishes on whether they would like to adopt similar arrangements in their parishes.

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 Local Access Forum is *"a partnership to promote and develop sustainable access for the growing benefit of the environment and all in our community"*. Established since 2003, it is a statutory advisory forum advising the Council on the management and improvement of public access to land in the Royal Borough for open-air recreation.

The Forum has discussed and given advice to the Council on the following topics during 2012/13:

- The Milestones Targets for 2013/14
- Multi-use paths. This is a proposal put forward by the forum to convert the cycle

tracks at the Jubilee River at Eton to multi-use paths, allowing horse riding use, for a trial period. This is currently being progressed.

- Dog walking issues, which has led to the team developing guidance notes for dog walkers and contacting local professional dog walking companies and veterinary centres.
- Considering and advising on the issues between public rights of way and land management.
- Updating the public rights of way booklet and considering a new leaflet for farmers about their ploughing and cropping responsibilities.
- Bray Footpath 24 (part) diversion application
- The DEFRA consultation about the improvements to the policy and legal framework for public rights of way.
- The Natural England consultation on the future management of National Trails from April 2013
- Devolution of public rights of way services to parishes
- External funding/developer contributions, in particular the Paths for Communities scheme.
- Monitoring the progress of completing the Windsor Great Park Easy Going Route leaflet.
- Monitoring the progress of completing the Millennium Walk.
- Use of volunteers for works on public rights of way.

The Forum publishes an annual report detailing its activities.

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, where possible following the course of the river. 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.

A review of the ways in which National Trails are managed is currently being undertaken by Natural England on behalf of DEFRA.

2.7 *Equestrians*

- 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 carriageways, and adapting the maintenance of highway verges to enable safe use by horse riders. As an example, a new horse margin is being created adjacent to the Henley Road, to create a safe riding link between Rose Lane and Hodgedale Lane.
- 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 reported maintenance and enforcement problems.

The number of reported problems outstanding has been reduced from **314** to **264** during the course of the year.

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.

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

	Outstanding at 31 st March 2012	Reported 1 st April 2012 to 31 st Jan 2013	1st April 2012 to 31st Jan 2013 closed	Total Outstanding at 31st Jan 2013
ENFORCEMENT				
Ploughing and lack of marking	0	8	8	0
Obstruction by crops	0	5	5	0
Fence encroachment	34	4	19	19
Fence obstruction	7	3	6	4
Building obstruction	3	0	2	1
Other obstructions	29	10	18	21
Stiles	35	1	9	27
Gates	8	3	6	5
Bulls/ other animal problems	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised use by horses	1	0	0	1
Unauthorised vehicular use	8	0	4	4
Electric fencing	2	1	2	1
Misleading notices	0	2	2	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0
Overhanging vegetation	18	3	15	6
Other Enforcement Problems	32	11	20	23
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT:	177	51	116	112
MAINTENANCE				
Vegetation	2	14	12	4
Rutting	3	3	2	4
Drainage	7	1	4	4
Fallen trees	6	18	19	5
Erosion	16	9	10	15
Tree problems	0	1	0	1
Bridges	9	6	6	9
Safety barriers	5	4	6	3
Steps	0	0	0	0
Roadside signposting	6	16	17	5
Signposting at path junctions	1	6	4	3
Waymarking	8	10	12	6
Rubbish/ waste	1	2	1	2
Other Maintenance Problems	23	12	16	19
TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	87	102	109	80
TOTALS OF MAINTENANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	264	153	225	192

* 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, the 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 maintains a comprehensive electronic library of photographic records covering many of the public rights of way in the borough.

These electronic records 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 3 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 and the East Berks Ramblers 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
- 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. Sunningdale Parish Council are currently publicising a ‘Diamond Jubilee’ parish walk using public rights of way, due to take place in April 2012.

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, changes to the network, contact details, and maps of all public rights of way in the borough. Recent additions include advice and guidance for dog owners and a special set of pages for the Cookham Easy Going Route, which includes more information about the route and a ‘virtual tour’ which allows users to view detailed photographs of the entire route.

The web pages 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. Future improvements are planned to show maps of the path furniture, a register of all authorised gates and barriers along public rights of way, and improved information about the permitted paths in the Borough which complete missing links and compliment the public rights of way network

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

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 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, and is widely adopted by Highway Authorities to enable benchmarking between individual authorities’ performance.

The borough’s indicator is based on information obtained from condition surveys undertaken by volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers, and the indicator result for the borough in 2012/13 was **90.7%**.

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 2013/14 Milestones Statement

- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
- All Parish and Town Councils in the borough
- 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
 - British Horse Society
 - Council for the Protection of Rural England
 - Crown Estate
 - National 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 Pitcroft 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: DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER APPLICATIONS (CLAIMS)

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Comment
			From	To	
Shottesbrooke	FP 501	2007	Shottesbrooke FP 12 (Pundles Lane)	Waltham St Lawrence FP 38	Claim dismissed in Feb. 2010, but appeal allowed and Order made in Nov 2011. Objections received and Order is to be referred back to the Planning Inspectorate for a decision on whether or not the Order is confirmed.
White Waltham	FP 501	2008	White Waltham RB 4 (School Lane, Littlewick Green)	White Waltham FP 9	Order made in June 2010. Objections received, and Public Inquiry concluded in August 2012. Order confirmed and added to Definitive Map as White Waltham FP 25.
Cox Green	FP 501	2009	Culley Way	Farmers Close	Order made March 2011, objections received. Currently on hold pending outcome of Alley Gating Order process.
Wraysbury	FP 501-505	2009	Various paths at Thamesfield		Claims awaiting determination of village green application

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. ***NB 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

Public Rights of Way Milestone Targets 2012/13: update to end of Jan 2013	
WELL MAINTAINED	
<p>WM1 <i>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 2011/12: 95%</i></p>	<p>89.9 (Spring survey)</p> <p>91.4 (Autumn survey)</p> <p>90.7 (combined total)</p>
<p>WM2 <i>To carry out major surface improvements or vegetation clearance on 10 public rights of way. (FP =footpath, BR = bridleway, RB = restricted byway)</i></p> <p>Bisham FP 3 (off Quarry Wood Road) Bisham FP 4 (off Quarry Wood Road) Cox Green RB 14 (Snowball Hill) Cox Green FP 11 (Ockwells Park) Datchet FP 1 (off Slough Road) Horton BR 4 (Horton to Colnbrook) Maidenhead BR 46 (Muddy Lane) Hurley RB 41 (Star Lane)</p>	<p>Step building Revetment works Major clearance works Major surface improvement Major surface improvement Major surface improvement Major clearance works Major surface improvement Total 8</p>
<p>WM3 <i>To repair or replace 5 bridges.</i></p> <p>Cookham FP 48 (The Green Way/Widbrook Common) Cox Green FP 6 (off Ockwells Road) Cox Green FP 8 (off Thrift Lane) Cox Green FP 12 (near Ockwells Park) Datchet FP 4 (Black Potts Footbridge) Eton FP 36 (The Myrke Footbridge) Hurley FP 23 (near Channers Wood) Waltham St L FP 13 (off Mire Lane)</p>	<p>Bridge parapet repaired Loose handrails repaired Bridge repaired 2 bridges repaired Parapet fittings replaced Parapet fittings replaced Missing handrail replaced Bridge repaired Total 9</p>
LEGALLY DEFINED	
<p>LD1 <i>To actively progress a minimum of 4 applications to add public rights of way to the definitive map (DMMO claims).</i></p>	<p>White Waltham FP 25 (Order confirmed at Public Inquiry)</p> <p>Shottesbrooke FP 501: Order referred to Planning Inspectorate. Total 2</p>
<p>LD2 <i>To resolve a minimum of 1 significant error in definitive map.</i></p>	<p>0</p>

WELL PUBLICISED	
WP1 <i>To produce 1 leaflet publicising access opportunities for people with special needs.</i>	Cookham Easy Going Route website published. Total 1
WP2 <i>To assist others to produce effective promotional material. Target for 2012/2013: a minimum of 1 new publication.</i>	Maidenhead Boundary Walk (signage/waymarking) Total 1
IMPROVING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY	
AC1 <i>To achieve 2 new routes from the Rights of Way Improvement Plan projects</i>	1 new link in Green Way, FP 90 Maidenhead (north of Ray Mill Road West)
AC2 <i>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.</i>	
Bray FP 20 Bray FP 38 Cox Green FP 7 (BBOWT site at Woolley Firs) Datchet FP 1 (off Slough Road) Horton BR 4 (Horton to Colnbrook)	2 stiles replaced with kissing gates 1 stile replaced with kissing gate 2 stiles replaced with kissing gates 3x dropped kerbs installed Sub-standard bridle gate replaced with horse 'step-over' gate and K barrier for cycle access Total 5
ENFORCEMENT	
EN 1 <i>To resolve 30 enforcement issues</i>	
Bisham FP 9 (Park Farm); path blocked by maize crop Bisham FP 9 (Park Farm); gate stolen and cattle in field Bisham FP 32 (Park Farm); path blocked by maize crop Bisham RB 10 (Bisham Woods); tree fallen from adj. land Bisham FP 36 (off Warren Row Road); unauthorized use by horse riders and cyclists churning up the footpath Bray FP 28 (off Forest Green Road); path blocked by crops Bray FP 25 (off Forest Green Road); path blocked by crops Bray FP 31 (off Money Row Green Road); path blocked by crops Bray 51A (off Fifield Road); vehicles using the path Bray 51A (off Fifield Road); blocked by overgrowth & planting Cook BR 19 (Cannon Court Road); two unauthorised gates Cook BR 19 (Cannon Court Road); path blocked at entrance Cook FP 26 (Winter Hill to Dean Lane); unauthorised gate Cook RB 5 (off Cookham Dean Bottom); overhanging vegetation Cox Green RB 14 (Woodlands Park Avenue/Snowball Hill); fence collapsed onto path Eton Footpath 4 (North Field); path not marked out Eton Bridleway 17 (South Field); path not marked out Eton Bridleway 18 (South Field); path not marked out	Crops cleared by farmer Resolved by farmer Crops cleared by farmer Tree removed by landowner Discussed with landowner and signs installed at path entrances Crops cleared by farmer Crops cleared by farmer Crops cleared by farmer Bollards installed Path cleared by landowner Gates removed by landowner Blockages removed by landowner Gate removed by landowner and BS compliant gate authorised by Council Vegetation cleared by resident Fence cleared and repaired by landowner Footpath marked out by farmer Bridleway marked out by farmer Bridleway marked out by farmer

Eton Footpath 19 (South Field); path not marked out	Footpath marked out by farmer
Datchet FP 8 (off Southlea Road); trees fallen from private land over path	Trees cleared by landowner
Hurl FP 2 (Thames Path); "No cycling" signs on Restricted Byway	Signs removed by landowner
Hurl FP 17 (Prospect Hill); shooting taking place close to path	Landowner advised shooters not to shoot close to or in direction of path
Hurley FP 36 (Bowsey Hill to Warren Road); Unlawful cycling and horse riding use.	No cycling and no horse riding signs installed.
Hurl RB 41 (Star Lane): unauthorised vehicular use	Bollards installed
Hurl RB 58 (Green Lane); fence encroaching onto path	Fence repositioned by resident
Maid FP 18 (North Town Moor); path ploughed and not reinstated	Path marked out by farmer
Maid RB 72 (Nightingale Lane); overhanging vegetation	Vegetation cleared by landowner
Old Windsor FP 3 (Thames Path); path obstructed by wooden posts	Majority of posts removed by landowner. Waymark discs and signs to be erected on remaining posts.
Waltham St Lawrence FP 34 (off Hungerford Lane); path ploughed and not reinstated	Path reinstated by farmer
Waltham St Lawrence FP 37 (off Hungerford Lane); path ploughed and not reinstated	Path reinstated by farmer
Windsor FP 7 (Romney Walk); iron fence broken adj. to path	Passed to Network Rail for resolution
Whit RB 8 (Snowball Hill); Fence collapsing over path	Fence repaired by landowner
Wray FP 8C (off Fairfield Approach); hedge encroachment.	Hedge cut back by landowner
Wray FP 8C (off Fairfield Approach); fence encroachment.	Fences moved back by landowner
Wray FP 8C (off Fairfield Approach); path blocked by vehicles	Vehicles removed by landowner
Wray FP 9 (St. Andrews Church to Magna Carta Lane); path obstructed by warning tape	Tape removed by landowner
	Total 36

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 Dugrove 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 2012 update) surface improvements carried out to the paths either side of Summerleaze bridge 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 2012 update): surface improvements carried out to paths in this area 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

Category Two:		
Ref	Proposal (not in priority order)	Parish
2.1	Create a pedestrian link between Bisham Bridleway 22 and the A404 tunnel at Dungrove Hill Lane: <i>(March 2013 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to create this new pedestrian link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i>	Bisham
2.2	Fill in missing links on the “Millennium Walk” from Hurley to Maidenhead Riverside / Cliveden Reach connecting to the Thames Path by securing a path from: (a) Nightingale Lane to the Green Way (b) Prospect Hill to the entrance of Temple Golf Club <i>(March 2012 update): New permitted footpath opened across BCA land and associated highway safety works undertaken.</i> (c) Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path <i>(March 2013 update): Discussions are being held with the landowners about the proposed new footpath.</i>	Cookham/ Maidenhead
2.3	Divert Bisham Footpath 19 (Michael’s Path) to run along the disused Henley Road	
2.4	Create a new bridleway connecting the end of Hurley Lane with the eastern end of Bradenham Lane using existing highway land alongside the A404 northbound carriageway: <i>(March 2007 update: Initial feasibility studies and consultations have indicated that the potential benefits of this project would not justify the cost)</i>	Bisham Bisham
2.5	An extension of the Green Way from Hibbert Road in Braywick to the River Thames at Summerleaze Bridge to provide a traffic free route for walkers, cyclists and disabled users.	Bray
2.6	New route along the Cut from Bray Wick upstream to Westleymill on the Bracknell Forest boundary	
2.7	A circular route around Bray village, and also around the old Biffa pits	
2.8	Possible improvements / extension to the Green Way and upgrading of some sections to permit use by cyclists <i>(March 2010 update: surface improvements completed on Maidenhead FP 84, Ray Mill Road West to Town Moor.</i> <i>(March 2013 update): new off-road link opened north of Ray Mill Road West.</i>	Various Maidenhead

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	<p>Make the Thames Path and associated paths accessible to mobility restricted users from Temple to Frog Mill via Hurley</p>	<p>Bisham & Hurley</p>
2.11	<p>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></p>	<p>Cookham</p>
2.12	<p>Access improvements at Cookham Lock to provide high degree of accessibility to the site.</p>	<p>Cookham</p>
2.13	<p>Creation of a path parallel to the Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook common</p>	
2.14	<p>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></p>	
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/ Maidenhead</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>	<p>Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury</p>

	<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</p> <p><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>	<p>Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury</p> <p>Horton</p> <p>Datchet</p>
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	<p>Disabled friendly routes should be investigated at Eton, Sunninghill and Ascot, Sunningdale, Knowl Hill, White Waltham and Hurley Lock</p>	
2.19	<p>Upgrade Jubilee River paths to allow horse riding</p>	Eton
2.20	<p>A crossing over the Thames across Hurley Lock and weirs</p>	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>	Maidenhead
2.22	<p>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</p> <p><i>(March 2013 update: a new footbridge across the Thames at Boulders Lock is included in a Draft Development Brief for the Mill Lane, Taplow site produced by South Bucks District Council)</i></p>	Maidenhead
2.23	<p>Create a link between Braywick Park and Bray Road and Maidenhead Footpath 1</p>	

2.24	(a) Upgrade Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead Footpath 30) to a cycle route (b) <i>March 2009 addition: Reinstate the definitive width of Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead FP 30) to provide segregated route for cyclists</i>	
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	[Added 10/1/2007] Divert Hurley Footpath 47 and Hurley Footpath 49 to improve A4 Road Crossings. (<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>).	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

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