

LEEDS LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Councillor Proctor
Lead Member for Leisure Services

c/o Leeds City Council
Governance Services
4th Floor West
Civic Hall
LEEDS
LS1 1UR

Tel: 0113 247 4359
Fax: 0113 395 1599
E-mail: laura.pilgrim@leeds.gov.uk

28 January 2008

Dear Councillor Proctor

RE: Leeds Local Access Forum – Meeting Held on Tuesday 9th October 2007

I write with regard to an update received by Leeds Local Access Forum at its last meeting on the 9th October 2007 in relation to the Rights of Way Improvement Plan. At our meeting on 17th July 2007 the Forum approved the Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan to go out for a statutory 12 week consultation period. However at the Forum's last meeting in October we were advised that the Draft document was still awaiting approval by the Chief Recreation Officer and Lead Member for Leisure Services before being issued for consultation. This means that the approval of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan has been significantly delayed, and therefore Leeds City Council, as local highway authority, will not meet the statutory deadline of 21 November 2007 for publication of the Plan, as required by section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

The Forum wished to express its concern and disappointment in the delay in approving an important document which has an instrumental role in the strategic development and improvement of public rights of way in Leeds. Whilst the Forum appreciates that you may have busy schedules, on behalf of the Forum I would urge both yourself and the Chief Recreation Officer to approve the document as soon as possible so that the consultation and approval process can be completed.

In order for you to be kept informed of the work of the Local Access Forum and development of Rights of Way Improvement Plan I have asked the Forum's Secretary to ensure that future copies of all agendas and minutes are sent to you. You are also very welcome to attend any future meetings of the Forum.

This letter constitutes formal advice from the Leeds Local Access Forum. Leeds City Council is required, in accordance with section 94 (5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to the relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.

If you have any queries relating to this matter please contact me through Laura Pilgrim, Secretary to the Forum on (0113) 2474359.

Yours sincerely

Dr. M. Willison
Chair of Leeds Local Access Forum

This letter constitutes formal advice from the Leeds Local Access Forum. Leeds City Council is required, in accordance with section 94 (5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to the relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.