

Yorkshire & the Humber Regional LAF Meeting 25 March 2009

Agenda Item: Future Meetings Workshop

1 Expectations/ role of the Regional LAF secretariat

- To disseminate information to and from EAF
- To collate best practice examples from LAFs and disseminate to the region
- To facilitate two-way communication between LAFs and Natural England
- To facilitate meetings with other governing bodies/audit/ planning commissions To provide networking opportunities as today has done ('updates' from other LAFs vital, enables progress monitoring for own LAF)
- A combination of face-to-face meeting, and email contact is crucial
- To disseminate information –a huge amount of information is available at the regional level, the secretariat should disseminate, then allow each LAF chair to act as the filter for what each LAF/ member/ other contact is best placed to receive. There is a role for LAF chairs and secretaries to encourage their members if they feel inundated, and retain their enthusiasm

2 Format of future regional LAF meetings

- Strong support for future meetings
- Today's format is a good one enabling learning from each other *and* experts/trainers, and should be repeated
- Regional meetings to fall after EAF meetings
- Specifically steered towards training
- Separate meetings to discuss local issues
- On site meetings to view issues in the field
- To continue to enable dialogue between chairs
- Attendance – useful to have 2 reps from each LAF and extras where appropriate/ special interests
- Should enable a two-way flow of information between the regional secretariat, and the region

3 Future training ideas/ requests

- Due to the diverse nature of the region, it may be useful to have those who have particular knowledge on a topic to produce briefing papers/ paragraphs, which the regional secretariat could then circulate training can then take place via more than the training day situation
- Training is necessary not only for the LAF members themselves, but in order for them to inform the public – signposting

- Visual impairment (sight disability speakers including Lawrence Player, Rehabilitation Officer, NYCC, Natural England staff and/or Losehill Hall trainer)
- Repairs to rights of way (speaker from National Trust?)
- Ethnic inclusion (Mosaic Project?)
- Marketing LAFs including use of websites
- Running a LAF
- Dealings with improper use of the rights of way network
- Educating people about the various types of PRoW (permissive/definitive)
- Quangos/ abbreviations
- Revisit CRoW act – in light of mapping, to continue momentum
- Gating Orders
- Access
- Motorbikes/motor vehicles – sustainability issues
- Cross-boundary consultation – does it work, best practise – many issues for LAFs that overlap different local authorities eg LTPs