

Norfolk Local Access Forum

Item No.

Report title:	Local Access Forum annual review 2016-2017
Date of meeting:	11 October 2017
Responsible Officer:	Steve Miller, Assistant Director Culture and Heritage
Strategic impact This is the annual report for submission to Natural England for the period 2016-2017. The strategic impact for Norfolk County Council will be limited to the statutory duty to note advice from the Norfolk Local Access Forum.	

Executive summary

Recommendations:

That the Members of the Norfolk Local Access Forum note the Annual Report April 2016 – March 2017 (Appendix A) and agree the priorities for 2017/18

1. Proposal (or options)

1.1 That the Annual Report is agreed and the main priorities for the Norfolk Local Access Forum for 2017/18 are:

- To organise further Parish Paths Conferences, but to hold smaller events based on the district council areas
- To continue to look for schemes that may support alternative approaches to management of Permissive Paths
- To develop a business plan and resources for Pathmakers projects.

2. Evidence

2.1. None

3. Financial Implications

3.1. None

4. Issues, risks and innovation

4.1. None

5. Background

5.1. Natural England has a statutory role to receive copies of Local Access Forum (LAF) annual reports. In addition to the Natural England statutory function, they provide support to LAFs by championing their role at national and local levels and by facilitating the exchange of good practice. LAFs are important local organisations which at their best, provide a genuine focus of civil society engagement and are an example of localism in action. By bringing together volunteers from a range of backgrounds and interests, the LAFs play an important role in local decision making relating to a range of social, economic

and environmental issues.

Natural England have used the information provided by the LAFs to produce the Annual Reports. These have been shared with government and interested stakeholders. The reports provide fascinating snapshots of the work of LAFs and contain examples of LAF achievements and an insight into their concerns.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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