

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form

April 2015 to March 2016

Name of LAF	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Name of LAF Chair	Alistair Thompson
Name of LAF Secretary	Rachel Briggs

Total number of LAF members	18
Number of members representing users of public rights of way or access land	6
Number of members representing owners and occupiers of access land or land over which PROW subsist	3
Number of members representing other interests	6

Number of full LAF meetings held	3	Number of sub-group meetings held	5
Number of working groups led by others	0	Number of training days provided by the Appointing Authority	0
How many km of PROW have been improved due to LAF input?	0	How much funding did the LAF (or an associated body) raise?	£0.00
How many extra volunteer hours were committed to public access (not including LAF committee meetings)?			

Partners your LAF worked with during 2015/16 (click on a box or type 'x')

Local Nature Partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local Enterprise Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and Wellbeing Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>	LEADER funding Local Action Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>

LAF achievements/making a difference?¹ Please give examples to illustrate how your LAF has improved public access to land for the purpose of open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area. Do you think your LAF has made a difference to public access in your area via its discussions and actions?

Much of the work of the YDAF is undertaken through various advisory sub-groups who facilitate discussion between a wide range of users to reach consensus on access issues. Ongoing examples include voluntary 4x4 restrictions on some routes & access for caving. The YDAF also works closely with the YDNPA, its officers & its staff to support the ongoing maintenance of PROW & use of Open Access areas throughout the area.

What activity did your LAF undertake to help record historical PROW before 2026?

Nothing specific, the majority of the historical PROW in the area are already recorded.

¹ These achievements form an important part of the national annual report that is submitted to Defra/Minister and help to promote the work and good practice of LAFs

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form

April 2015 to March 2016

Please add numbers to the following differentiating between formal consultations and general advice given by the LAF on particular subjects. If a consultation covered more than one subject area, please count separately.

	Consultations	Advice	Optional Detail
Green Infrastructure strategies			
Transport (LTP, traffic management, rail, DfT, Highways Agency)			
Water / Coast (slipways, flood defence, EA, shoreline)			
Public open space (public space protection orders)			
Dog control/exclusion/on leads/fouling orders			
Planning applications /Housing development schemes			
Land use and planning matters (e.g. informal advice on land development)			
Local development frameworks and planning strategies	1		
PROW creation, diversion or closure - number of each			
Recording lost ways/historical rights - working towards the 2026 cut-off			
Right of Way Improvement Plan review			
Route improvements (to PROW and other multi-user/cycling/horse-riding/walking routes)		1	
Promotion of access, open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area		3	
Vehicular access and issues relating to motorised use of PROW		1	
Parish Council or other grant schemes			
Access for people with reduced mobility			
Commons, village greens	3		
Open Access land restrictions	1		
Coastal Access/National Trails			
NNR dedication			
Greenspace including Country Parks and Local Nature Reserves			
Nature conservation (including SSSIs)		1	
Agri-environment scheme issues (HLS and new Countryside Stewardship) e.g. expiring permissive access agreements, effects of land management options on public access etc.			
Forestry and woodland	1		

Any other LAF activity (please specify):

Involvement in Regional LAF

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form

April 2015 to March 2016

What are your top priorities for the year ahead?

Extension of Yorkshire Dales National Park & associated changes to YDAF area of responsibility. Close liaison with YDNPA & with Cumbria & Lancashire LAF's to ensure smooth transitional arrangements.

Do you foresee any issues or challenges that may affect your LAFs operation and/or its ability to deliver improvements to public access in the coming year?

See above - potential knock on effects of dealing with transitional matters which may have an impact on maintaining/improving public access effectively due to other priorities

Is there any particular support or training that you need to deliver your priorities or work program for next year?

Summarise any feedback received from section 94(4) bodies²

Comments from the Appointing Authority

It's been another great year for the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum. The input we get from this group of 'volunteers' is really encouraging. As in previous years, much of the work is carried out within the Advisory Groups which are still functioning well.

Comments from LAF Chair

The YDAF continues to be well supported by its members & the YDNPA, & the various advisory sub-groups are well established & effective. 2016-17 will be a challenging period as the YDNPA & the YDAF transitions to a larger area of responsibility.

Any other comments

Continued minimal response from other local partners, despite regular offers to seek engagement by YDAF

² The Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000, Section 94(4) specifies that it is the function of a local access forum, as respects to the area for which it is established, to advise the appointing authority; the local highway authority; other bodies exercising functions under CROW Act Part 1 (Natural England, Forestry Commission and English Heritage) and such other bodies as may be prescribed. These other bodies are set out in the LAF Regulations 2007, paragraph 21, and include: any conservation board established by the Secretary of State, any parish or town council in the area covered by the LAF, and Sport England.