

For attention: Ian Bateman, DCC

**Devon County Council's Climate Change Consultation
Questionnaire**

The response of the Devon Local Access Forum is as follows:

Q1. Yes

Q2. Yes

Q3. The Local Access Forum (LAF) has a statutory responsibility under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 to advise Devon County Council on "the improvement of public access to land in that area for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area" having regard to "the desirability of conserving the natural beauty of the area".

Numbers of leisure users are steadily increasing and combined with an apparent increase in extreme weather conditions such as long dry spells and flash floods, there are implications for both open moorland areas (e.g. fire hazards) and unsurfaced footpaths, bridleways and byways (e.g. washout). Additionally, increasing numbers travelling to the countryside implies increasing numbers of motor vehicles.

The LAF is alert to the need to encourage non-motorised or public transport, and to monitor the need for resources to cope with emergency reinstatement and repairs.

Q4. Please keep the Devon LAF fully informed of all climate change tools which become available.

Q5. The Local Transport Plan provides a number of examples of which cycleways and bus routes are most obvious. Incidental to our work we come across examples, such as eco-tourism projects in which SW Tourism and SW Forest have an interest.

Q6. The Consultation Document is comprehensive and there is, for the present, no additional action the LAF could suggest.

Q7. The Devon LAF meets only three or four times a year so the document has not been discussed in a full meeting. There may be additional comments when members have had the opportunity of open discussion.

Please contact Hilary Winter (see above) if you need further information.

R.O Harvey, Chairman.
Devon LAF
13/09/05

27 May 2005

