

**PROW Action Programme 2007-2008**

The Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP) was published in July 2005. It has been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 and takes account of the guidance issued in 2002 by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. It includes sections by Dartmoor and Exmoor National Park Authorities. The RoWIP forms a strand of the Devon Local Transport Plan (DLTP) 2006-2011. **The main objective of the RoWIP is to improve public rights of way and access for all.**

The CROW Act required local highway authorities to prepare a statement of the action it proposes to take for the management and improvement of local rights of way with particular regard to:

1. the extent to which local rights of way meet the present and likely future needs of the public;
2. the opportunities provided by local rights of way (and in particular footpaths, cycle tracks, bridleways, restricted byways and byways open to all traffic) for exercise and other forms of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the authority's area; and
3. the accessibility of local rights of way to blind or partially sighted persons and others with mobility problems.

Defra guidance suggests that statements of action should make proposals for taking the required action and state, in broad terms, how those proposals are to be realised. The **Annual Action Programme 2007-2008** provides more detailed targets for the year which Devon County Council intends to undertake to implement the RoWIP. This can be downloaded from [www.devon.gov.uk/rowip](http://www.devon.gov.uk/rowip).

The programme is not exhaustive but focuses on new initiatives or significant ongoing activities and is intended to cover a wide range of Devon County Council's services and functions.

# Improving Devon's Environment: Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2006-2011

## Public Rights of Way Action Programme 2007-2008

ACTION	TARGET	PROGRESS	COMMENTS
Ongoing parish-by-parish statutory review of Definitive Map and Statement.	10 parish reviews submitted to Committee. <i>March 2008</i>		
Digitise Section 31 HA80 register (statutory duty).	Commence 2 year programme to produce register. <i>September 2008</i>		
Divert public rights of way to improve ease of use.	Process 25 Public Path Diversion Orders.		
Divert public rights of way in response to landowner applications.	Process 10 Public Path Diversion Orders. <i>March 2008</i>		
Continue maintenance, signing and waymarking of public rights of way to established standards.	50% of network inspected and necessary maintenance works arranged. <i>March 2008</i>	Ongoing.	
Undertake improvement works to increase BVPI178.	Increase BVPI178 to 95% easy to use. <i>March 2008</i>		
Monitor enforcement action and liaise with Rural Payments Agency for Cross Compliance.	<i>Ongoing</i>	Ongoing.	
Undertake major structural work schemes.	Major bridge schemes: <i>March 2008</i>		
	Capstone Point		
	Lapford Footpath 1	Complete.	
	Shute Footpath 2	Complete.	
	Chulmleigh / Chawleigh Footpath 13/18	Complete.	
	Bovey Tracey Bridleway 33		
	South Harberton Footpath 6		
	Manaton Bridleway 32	Complete.	
	Exmouth Footpath 1		
	Throwleigh Bridleway 1	Complete design.	
	Culmstock Footpath 5		
	Lewtrenchard Footpath 2		
	Beaworthy Bridleway 58		
	Bradworthy Footpath 16		
	Phoenix Bridleway Routes (East Devon)		
	Churchston Footpaths 3 and 4 and Kingswear Footpath 52		
	Otterton Footpath 1		
	Farway Footpath 7		

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"Parked routes"	Develop a strategy for the completion of "parked routes" to increase the percentage that are easy to use. <i>October 2007</i>		
Complete Public Service Agreement 2 (PSA2)	Meet agreed targets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ Satisfaction with information;</li> <li>▫ Walking for health schemes;</li> <li>▫ User numbers at named sites.</li> </ul> <i>March 2008</i>		
Promotion	Promote the rights and responsibilities of users and landowners and encourage use of the rights of way network for health and wellbeing at the county show and local agricultural shows. <i>Ongoing</i>		
Continue liaison with Customer Service Centre.	Agree and monitor protocols. <i>Ongoing</i>	Ongoing.	
Support, train and allocate grants to the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Scheme	3 summer and 3 winter P3 workshops and ongoing training to include H&S, survey manual, strimming, print and publicity. <i>March 2008</i>	Ongoing.	
Undertake safety analysis of rights of way that join A roads.	Analyse 2 A roads (A39 and A3072) and seek funding to implement identified improvements. <i>March 2008</i>		
Undertake safety analysis for walkers and riders along Haldon Ridge C road.	Assessment of route and improvement works identified. <i>March 2008</i>	Engineering and Design Group commissioned.	
Prepare PROW guidance note for, and liaison with, District Councils to reaffirm understanding of statutory duties.	Guidance prepared. <i>March 2008</i>	Ongoing.	Cheshire County Council guidance identified as good practice. Development Management Group advice to be sought.
Liaise with Forestry Commission regarding dedications under Section 16 of CROW 2000.	Compile GIS layer and establish signing programme. <i>March 2008</i>	Ongoing.	Under discussion with Forestry Commission.
Analyse best practice for limited mobility provision to inform RoWIP implementation.	Produce report. <i>October 2007</i>	Dissertation produced.	
Implement Phase 1 of Strategic Bridleway Network: Creation of bridleway and	Phase 1 complete. <i>March 2008</i>		

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associated works: Thorndon Cross to Venndown Gates.			
Consulation for Phase 2 of Strategic Bridleway Network: Venndown Gates to Halwill Junction.	Consultation to commence after completion of Phase 1. <i>March 2008</i>		
Prepare a Committee Report on a countywide Strategic Bridleway Network.	Report to Committee. <i>March 08</i>		
Review existing and proposed cycleway schemes with a view to multi-use provision and links to the existing network.	Carry out review of 1 existing cycleway. <i>March 2008</i> To continue review of proposals. To review multi-use code of conduct. <i>Ongoing</i>		
Support for access initiatives for Forest for Active Living Project at Haldon.	Diversion of two routes (St Andrew's Lane and Spicer's Lane, Kenn). <i>March 2008</i>	Starting process with Forestry Commission negotiations.	
Continue to support the Devon Countryside Access Forum (DCAF).	<i>Ongoing</i>		
Clinton Devon Estate Permissive Path Agreements	Renegotiation of permissive path agreements for Estate land. <i>March 2008</i>		
Maristow Estate Permissive Path Agreements	Negotiation ongoing with Maristow Estate and other landowners to create access in the Bickleigh Vale area. <i>Ongoing</i>		
South West Coast Path: Strete Gate	Negotiation continuing for Sections 1 and 3. <i>Ongoing</i>		
Implement local community improvements through parish plans and existing RoWIP suggestions.	Chittlehampton Footpath Creation (County Farms): safer route to school.	Completed October 2007.	
	Ashprington – Sharpham footpath creation.	Completed October 2007.	
	Exmouth Circular Walks (promotional leaflet and accessibility improvements).	Ongoing (launch March 2008).	
	Topsham Footpath 20 (Sir Alex Walk) improvements.	Ongoing.	
	Charleton Link Path (Road Safety: A379).		
	Greenway Lane (Road Safety: A3052).		