

The Second Bracknell Forest Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP2) 2017-2027

Mid-term review 2022

Contents

Introduction to the Bracknell Forest Rights of Way Improvement Plan	4
RoWIP2 mid-term review	4
Summary of review findings	5
Detailed section by section review of RoWIP2:	8
Foreword and Vision	8
1. Introductions	9
2. RoWIP process and consultations	9
3. Policy context	9
3.1 The South East Plan	9
3.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	9
3.3. The Council Plan	9
3.4 Bracknell Forest - Comprehensive Local Plan	10
3.5 Local Transport Plan 3 2011-2026 (LTP3)	10
3.6 Bracknell Forest Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2012	10
3.7 Play, Open Spaces and Sports Study 2016-2037 (POSS Study)	11
3.8 Biodiversity Action Plan 2018-23 (BAP)	11
3.9 Blackwater Valley Strategy 2011-2016	11
3.10 Neighbourhood Plans	11
3.11 Bracknell Forest Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026	12
3.12 Bracknell Forest Climate Change Strategy 2020-2024	12
4. The Bracknell Forest Rights of way Network	14
4.1 Current network statistics	14
4.2 Permissive paths & other paths	14
4.3 Accessible land	14
4.4 Definitive Map and Statement	14
4.5 Network maintenance and enhancements	14
4.6 Network condition surveys and audits	
4.8 Land ownership	15
4.9 Responsible use of the countryside	
4.10 Cross-border opportunities	16
4.11 Designated and promoted routes	
4.12 Information and marketing	16
4.13 Conclusions	16
5. Use and demand	17
5.1 Rights of way users	17

5.2 Bracknell Forest public consultation and feedback	17
5.3 The Local Countryside Access Forum (LCAF)	20
Over the past five years there has been several changes to membership and the election chairman in February 2019	
5.4 Conclusions	21
6. Evaluation & assessment	21
7. RoWIP Polices	21
8. Action plan	21
Progress review	21
Locations and types of improvements	22
Resource requirements	23
Future improvements	25
Review conclusion	25
Appendices	
Appendix A – Progress with delivering actions	
Appendix B – PRoW improvements over the past 5 years	58
Appendix C – Proposed PRoW improvements and access routes	63
Appendix D – Examples of major PRoW and recreation improvements	
Rail crossing diversion, FP diversion and new path	66
Removing obstacles to PRoW	67
Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) improvements	68
Footpath surface improvements	69
References and photo credits	70
Abbreviations:	72

Introduction to the Bracknell Forest Rights of Way Improvement Plan

Through the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) the Government recognises the value of public rights of way and requires that each highway authority produces a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP).

ROWIPs are a mechanism for:

- protecting and enhancing local rights of way
- cover footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways, byways open to all traffic, and other routes for non-motorised traffic, and access land within the borough
- assess the way in which local rights of way can meet the present and future needs of the public and the opportunities provided for exercise and other forms of outdoor recreation and enjoyment.

The Bracknell Forest RoWIP is a 10-year strategic document that sets out how we intend to work with others to improve the management, provision and promotion of our rights of way network.

The first plan was produced in 2006, and was updated in 2017, as highway authorities are required to review them within 10 years.

The second ROWIP for Bracknell Forest (RoWIP2) was approved by the council's executive in December 2017. Work is underway to deliver its many actions. This review looks at the progress made over the past five years and assesses priorities for the remaining lifespan of the plan.

RoWIP2 mid-term review

The second Bracknell Forest Rights of Way Improvement plan (RoWIP2) was produced in 2017 with the intention to review it mid-way through its 10-year lifespan. The purpose of such a review is not to re-launch the plan, or to create a shift in policy, but primarily to review how well targets and actions are being achieved and to re-evaluate the existing agreed priorities for the remainder of the plan.

This review looks at all sections of RoWIP2, advising of updates where required and adding new sections where further context is needed. The structure of RoWIP2 is mirrored in this document to provide the best cross reference to the plan.

The following areas have been covered, as part of this review:

- Significant changes in legislation and policy relating to PRoW (section 3)
- Changes to the rights of way network and its use (sections 4 and 5)
- An update about the Local Countryside Access Forum (section 5.3)
- A review of the progress made with delivering actions. Uses a traffic light system. Examines if actions are on target for completion or are falling short and makes recommendations for prioritising remaining actions. (Appendix B)
- Details improvements to the borough's PRoW network since 2017 (Appendix B)
- Lists recommendations for further improvements to the borough's PRoW network (Appendix C)
- Provides examples of major PRoW / recreation improvements (Appendix D)

Bracknell Forest Council officers and rangers who manage and maintain the borough's rights of way network have led this review, in consultation with other council teams and the Local Countryside Access Forum.

Summary of review findings.

Updates / changes required to RoWIP2 Foreword and Vision	Further comments		
Reference provided to the new Executive Member and Director.	A new foreword will be provided when the plan undergoes its next review in 2027.		
Section 2. RoWIP2 process and consultations			
Updates to the 2017 feedback, where relevant, are provided in the action plan table in Appendix A.	A wider consultation of key stakeholders, and of users of rights of way, will be conducted as part of the 10- year review in 2027.		
Section 3. Policy context (plans, strategies and f	ramework)		
 Updates required for: National Planning Policy Framework The Council Plan Emerging BFC Local Plan, including the POSS study. 	The planning policies in the emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan are essential in protecting and enhancing local rights of way and recreational routes.		
 Bracknell Forest Biodiversity Action Plan 2018-23 Bracknell Forest Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026 	Providing access to outdoor recreational opportunities will help to improve residents' health and wellbeing. This is especially important during the recovery phase of the coronavirus pandemic.		
 Neighbourhood Plans Bracknell Forest Climate Change Strategy 2020-2024 (NEW) The green infrastructure review, 2017 (NEW) Blackwater Valley Strategy 2011-2016 (Expired/ no longer applicable) 	Climate change is also a hugely important issue, where improved PRoW and providing opportunities for sustainable travel, can play an important role in helping to address climate change.		
Section 4. The Bracknell Forest rights of way net	twork		
<i>Under 4.1 Current network statistics</i> , reference is made to 2 new footpaths in Sandhurst. The 4.4kms increase to the total length of the rights	This is only a small increase which should have minimal impact to rights of way maintenance requirements.		
of way network, is a 5.6% increase in total network length.	It's important to continue prioritising creating new routes and links (RoWIP2 policy 3).		
Further clarification provided under <i>4.5</i> <i>Network maintenance and enhancements</i> (see right)	 Responsibilities of vegetation management Referencing important practical support of the Bracknell Conservation Volunteers (BCVs) in delivering furniture improvements Changes to the way rights of way are inspected 		

Updates / changes required to RoWIP2	Further comments
New updates added under 4.8 Land owners' responsibilities and 4.9 Responsible use of the	More comprehensive list provided of landowners responsibilities and right
countryside.	Example provided about new signag provided by key partners to encoura responsible shared use of byways.
Section 5. Use and demand	
Reference provided in section <i>5.1.5 Motorised vehicle users</i> , to one new permanent TRO on Avery Lane (Warfield Byway 8).	Making permanent TROs to prevent motorised vehicles using byway are advised only where necessary.
	Making the location and restrictions TROs as a publicly available record should help residents to make inform travel choices.
Overview provided in section 5.2.2 Changes to use and demand about the increased observed	Increases to use and demand has be largely driven by coronavirus pander
popularity of rights of way and recreation routes and how this impacts maintenance requirements.	Accessing these facilities has been important for residents' health and wellbeing.
	Increased use has added pressure t rights of way and greenspace facilitie leading to greater maintenance requirements.
An update provided about LCAF (section 5.3), including an overview of membership and a description about how the Forum has adapted during the coronavirus pandemic.	LCAF continues to maintain a good representation of rights of way users and the minimum number of member required according to The Local Acc Forums (England) Regulations 2007
	3.—(1) A local access forum shall consist of at least ten and not more a 22 members.
Section 8. Action plan and PRoW improvements	
A thorough review has been carried out of the progress made in delivering the 51 actions listed in RoWIP2.	Out of the 51 actions identified:51% are fulfilled or on target for completion
A traffic light colour-coding system has been used to indicate progress made against each of the actions. A detailed description has also been provided of progress made and	 33% have had some progress ma on them 10% are falling behind the target 6% are no longer relevant
recommendations for prioritisation of remaining	10 actions have been given high price

Updates / changes required to RoWIP2

Over 80 physical improvements have been made to rights of way, comprising:

- · Removing furniture, such as step-over stiles
- Surface improvements
- Major vegetation clearance
- New signs
- New bollards

Two out of the 18 PRoW improvements on the PRoW improvements and access routes proposed by LCAF (see Appendix C), have been completed.

Three new suggestions for improvements and one that has been deleted owing to one part of the land on the route no longer being owned by BFC.

Progress and priority against each action no. Action category 1 2 3 4 5 6 Encourage use (M/L) (M) (M/L) (L) (M/H) (L) Mapping / 8 9 11 10 12 7 (M/H) cataloguing (H) (H) (H) (L) (M/H) Legal status and 14 16 17 19 13 15 18 condition (N/A)(H) (M) (H) (H) (N/A) (H) 20 21 22 23 24 New routes / links (M) (M) (M/H) (M) (M) 25 26 27 Improving access (M/H) (M) (M) Partnership 28 29 30 31 32 34 35 37 33 36 (H) working (M/L) M/H(M) (M) (M) (H) (MH) (M) 43 Raising 38 39 40 41 42 44 awareness (L) (L) (M/L) (1)(1)(M) 45 46 Responsible use (L) (N/A) 47 Monitoring (M) 48 49 50 51 Additional (N/A) (M) (M) (M)

Figure 1 Summary table of actions progress and priority level

Progress on each of the 51 actions:

Green: Fulfilled or on target for completion by 2027.

Orange: Some progress made but needs some attention to meet target.

Red: Very minimal or no progress made. Risk the target won't be met.

White: No longer relevant or is to be discontinued.

Priority levels: High (H) Medium/High (M/H) Medium (M) Medium/Low (M/L) Low (L) No longer applicable (N/A).

Only five of the actions are shaded red. This indicates minimal, or no progress has been made in delivering them. Four of these have been identified as low priority. This is because the actions have less importance than those that have a legal or statutory function to fulfil, or where there are significant benefits to improving accessibility of rights of way.

Further comments

The biggest improvements to access have been to replacing stiles with more accessible pedestrian gates or removing furniture altogether.

Partnership approach to this work has been a key factor to successfully carrying out these improvements.

Detailed section by section review of RoWIP2:

Foreword and Vision

The principles set out in the Foreword remain the same. The only thing to note is a change to the Executive Member and Director.

Cllr John Harrison is the Executive Member for Culture, Delivery and Public Protection. One of his Executive Functions is the management and promotion of rights of way and recreational routes for the Borough. Andrew Hunter is Executive Director for Place Planning & Regeneration, with highways and rights of way coming under his remit.

Vision:

'A thriving and accessible Public Rights of Way and greenspaces network in Bracknell Forest; that provides opportunities for open air recreation and enjoyment of the area and which supports wider interests including sustainable transport, the local economy, tourism, and health and wellbeing benefits.'



Figure 2 Public footpath running through Frost Folly in Warfield.

1. Introductions

Nothing to add.

2. RoWIP process and consultations

Feedback from the consultation conducted in 2017 was further analysed to ensure any outstanding actions were addressed. Updates where relevant are provided in the action plan table in Appendix A.

3. Policy context

3.1 The South East Plan

Nothing to add. Find out about the South East plan on Bracknell Forest Council's website.

3.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The NPPF sets out government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It been updated four times during the five-year lifespan of RoWIP2. The last update was made on 20 July 2021.

The section about rights of way in the revised NPPF adds reference to 'decisions' alongside planning 'policies', which gives more weight to rights of way in the planning process.

100. Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails.

3.3. The Council Plan

The Council Plan has been updated since it's last reference in RoWIP2. It now contains new key objectives for the period 2019 - 2023, that are based upon the pledges made to residents in the 2019 local election.

To deliver on all our objectives, the Council Plan is focused on six strategic themes. Objectives that have links to rights of way, and outdoor recreation are shown below. There's a strong link between how leisure pursuits, such as walking and cycling, can help to improve health and wellbeing due to the physical activity they entail. Access to greenspaces, such as Suitable Alternative Nature Greenspaces (SANGs) routes, has also proven beneficial.

• Caring for you and your family

1. Develop and implement a council wide programme of measures to help improve the health of our local population.

11. Ensure there are opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports and leisure activities.

12. Continue to provide easy access to the natural environment.

Protecting and enhancing our environment

7. Promote greater use of public transport and cycleways.

1. Protect our highly valued green spaces and strategic green gaps.

The full council plan can be found on: Bracknell Forest Council's website.

3.4 Bracknell Forest - Comprehensive Local Plan

The Bracknell Forest Local Plan provides the strategy for the growth of the borough up to 2037 (updated from 2036 in RoWIP2).

RoWIP2 briefly describes some of the Local Plan policy areas that are of relevance to rights of way. Specific reference should be given to Policy LP 33, Play, open space and sports provision of the Local Plan, which describes how development proposals should:

III protect, enhance and provide connectivity between OSPV and Built Sports Facilities through the use of the footpath and cycleway network, the Public Rights of Way network, and long-distance recreational routes;

Further detail is provided in section 14.2 Play, open space and sports provision of the <u>Pre</u> <u>Submission Bracknell Forest Local Plan (BFLP) (2021)</u>.

The Local Countryside Access Forum (LCAF) has expressed the wish to positively engage with developers about public rights of way on and close to development sites, and how to make the best out of them for current as well as future users.

The Bracknell Forest Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for independent examination on 20 December 2021. Information about the Emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan, including links to key information about the examination process and the latest examination news, can be found on <u>Bracknell Forest Council's website.</u>

3.5 Local Transport Plan 3 2011-2026 (LTP3)

The LTP3 is still in operation and covers all modes of transport including:

- walking
- cycling
- public transport
- car based travel
- freight

A copy of the LTP3 can be accessed from: Bracknell Forest Council's website.

3.6 Bracknell Forest Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2012

An original copy of the strategy remains available to view on Bracknell Forest Council's website, hence why this is showing as being unchanged. However, some of the priorities listed in this strategy have changed since the strategy was adopted by Bracknell Forest Council in 2012. Those that relate to management of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces (SANGs) and Rights of Way remain the same. A more recent review of green infrastructure provides better context about how rights of way and outdoor recreation support green infrastructure.

3.6.1 The green infrastructure review

Green infrastructure is a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which can deliver a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities.

The green infrastructure review conducted by Thames Valley Environmental Record Centre (TVERC) in 2017.

The review was commissioned by Bracknell Forest Council who wanted to undertake a review of green infrastructure (GI) in the borough to identify existing assets, deficits and opportunities within in the green infrastructure network. Bracknell Forest Council will use the results of this study to develop a green infrastructure strategy and policies for the new Comprehensive Local Plan (CLP).

Some of its findings were:

- Access and recreation are recognised as green infrastructure functions.
- Providing access links or connections to the existing Public Rights of Way network was recognised as a potential contributor to green infrastructure contributions from SHELAA (Strategic Housing and Economic Land availability Assessment) sites.
- Public rights of way are recognised as corridors. Many sites have existing PRoW passing through them which could be enhanced to provide additional green infrastructure function.
- Development should provide new links to the existing public access networks. This could be either through new Public Rights of Way or permissive routes, or through providing accessible green space that links existing Public Rights of Way or permissive routes.
- There are 638 assets identified as having an access or recreation function (figures 37-42). This includes both line and polygon features, such as green spaces, Public Rights of Way, access land and school nature areas. The size of these assets ranges from 8 square metres to 600 hectares (mean area = 6 hectares) with a total area of 2,980 hectares. For the line features, lengths range from 2 metres to 2 km (mean length = 0.5 km) with a total length of 77 km.

A copy of the green infrastructure review can be downloaded from: <u>Bracknell Forest</u> <u>Council's website.</u>

3.7 Play, Open Spaces and Sports Study 2016-2037 (POSS Study)

Copies of the POSS documents, including the appendices, can be found under *CLP/Ev/4* – *Infrastructure* of the Emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan web page. See link above.

3.8 Biodiversity Action Plan 2018-23 (BAP)

Bracknell Forest's new Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) runs from 2018 to 2023. It was approved on 17 of July 2018.

The former BAP was reviewed at the end of its period, the 'lessons learnt' were used to produce the current plan.

The current plan references the Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2017-2027. There's a link between Sustainable Benefits referenced in RoWIP2 and the BAP.

3.9 Blackwater Valley Strategy 2011-2016

This strategy has expired and there's no reference of a replacement strategy on the Blackwater Valley Countryside partnership website.

3.10 Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood planning was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and came into effect in April 2012. It is a government initiative aimed at trying to empower local communities to help make and take forward planning proposals at a local level.

At the time of adopting ROWIP2, the Binfield Neighbourhood Plan had been brought into force. There are now neighbourhood plans either adopted or in development for all six of the parishes, which can be accessed from <u>Bracknell Forest Council's website</u>.

Here are some examples of references to rights of way in the Neighbourhood Plans:

Bracknell

Because Bracknell is a New Town the layout of highways and rights of way and the scope described above is not a "traditional" urban one, however the network is generally good - see Appendix 5.15.

Policy TR 2

Cycleways and Footpaths Development proposals are expected to retain and, where possible, enhance, improve and complete, unfinished, existing, cycleways and footpaths to Bracknell Town Centre, schools and between them and residential neighbourhoods.

Crowthorne

Local infrastructure improvements

Work with landowners and the local authority to designate new public rights of way or permissive paths which circle and cut through the Parish to provide a range of shorter routes and provide better access to the wider landscape away from busy roads.

3.11 Bracknell Forest Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026

A new <u>Bracknell Forest Health and Wellbeing Strategy</u> was approved at the Health and Wellbeing Board on Tuesday, 7 June 2022. Bracknell Forest residents were consulted about the draft strategy in early 2022.

The strategy is the Health and Wellbeing Board's vision for the future health and wellbeing of Bracknell Forest residents. It aims to drive positive change by reducing health inequalities and improving the health of people who live, work and study in the borough.

Promoting healthy environments is referenced in the strategy, under 'Application of the three areas of the HiAP approach to this strategy':

• 'Wider infrastructure creating healthy buildings and areas which facilitate walking and cycling and use of local open spaces to support health and wellbeing.'

It's also referenced under 'Cross-cutting themes':

• 'Physical activity is known to improve not only physical but also mental health. Bracknell Forest has open and accessible green spaces for outdoor activities. Public health is working with partners to develop a physical activity strategy.'

Promoting healthy environments and physical activities to aid resident's physical and mental health especially important to aid recovery from coronavirus pandemic.

3.12 Bracknell Forest Climate Change Strategy 2020-2024

The Climate Change Act (2008), as amended in June 2019, sets a legally binding target for the UK to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

Improved PRoW and providing opportunities for sustainable travel, can play an important role in helping to address climate change. Changes to transport and how we travel (making greater use of PRoWs) will need to happen if we are to make a significant contribution to this target.

A key priority is to address the high number of people commuting to work by car:

'Increase the use of sustainable modes of transport in targeted areas - Get more people in residential and business areas walking and cycling or using public transport, particularly where census or public health data suggests uptake is low but could be higher. Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans and Emergency Active Travel Fund Measures, plus our continued work with the Bracknell BID to promote and increase sustainable modes of travel in Business Areas are all examples of our plans in action.'

When questioned on resident's views on travel and the environment in the future, the majority of residents believe that Covid-19 is a chance for people to be more environmentally friendly and that this is an opportunity for Bracknell Forest to accelerate its plans to become Carbon Neutral by 2050 67% agreed that they are more likely to walk or cycle and 62% agreed they are more likely to use local parks and open spaces.



Figure 3 Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace routes at Peacock Meadows.

4. The Bracknell Forest Rights of way Network

4.1 Current network statistics

The length of the rights of way network has increased over the past year, due to two path creation agreements in Sandhurst and a FP diversion also in Sandhurst.

- Creation of Sandhurst FP26 has added 86 metres to the footpath network.
- Creation of Sandhurst FP27 has added 215 metres to the footpath network.
- Sandhurst FP9A diversion has added 440 metres, minus 70 metres for the extinguished section, so 370 metres to add.

This makes the total length 82kms.

Classification	Total length (kms)	No. of paths	% Network by length
Footpath	57.80	117	70.48
Bridleway	10.98	15	13.39
Byway	8.00	20	9.75
Restricted Byway	5.21	6	6.35
Total	82	158	100.00

Figure 4 Rights of way length and number

NB - Yellow highlighted cells indicate where there have been updates to the information provided in RoWIP2.

4.2 Permissive paths & other paths

Nothing to add.

4.3 Accessible land

Nothing to add.

4.4 Definitive Map and Statement

The Definitive Map and Statement is due to be reviewed and updated in 2022. This will take into account changes to Public Rights of Way (PRoW) over the past 10 years.

4.5 Network maintenance and enhancements

'The Highway Authority has a duty to maintain the surface of Rights of Way, with vegetation being the responsibility of the landowner.'

Note: We are responsible for clearing vegetation growing from the surface of the path, other than crops. The cutting back of hedges and over hanging trees generally rests with the landowner and we will take up any issues directly with them.

'The Council is grateful for the valuable work carried out by South East Berkshire Ramblers in assisting with costs and volunteer labour involved in the installation of a significant number of stile/gate conversions.'

Note: Volunteer labour typically comes from the Bracknell Conservation Volunteers (BCVs). Ramblers often fund smaller projects but do not get involved with the practical side.

'The Best Value Performance Indicator 178 (BVPI) was a mandatory indicator used to provide statistical data on the condition of PRoW network, and enabled benchmarking

comparisons with other local authorities. In 2008 it ceased to be compulsory, but a number of authorities including Bracknell Forest have continued to collect and share this data.'

Bracknell Forest Council is no longer undertaking BVPI style inspections and haven't since at least 2019. They put too much demand on resources, where priority needs to be given to rights of way maintenance. Data about rights of way condition is still collected via path inspections carried out by volunteers.

4.6 Network condition surveys and audits

Nothing to add.

4.8 Land ownership

Note, 4.7 was missed and went straight to 4.8.

Reference is made to the landowners' responsibility to maintain furniture on rights of way that run over their land. There are other responsibilities that should be covered:

- Keep public rights of way clear of obstructions.
- Must not cultivate (e.g. plough) footpaths or bridleways that follow a field edge.
- Can add signs for waymarking / warning purposes, but these must not be misleading
- No banned livestock on land crossed by a public right of way
- Only used approved pesticides for use where spraying land crossed by a right of way

It is also within a landowners power to agree with the Highway Authority to create a new right of way over their land (creation agreement), or apply to extinguish, divert, upgrade or downgrade a right of way.

Further information is available from: Gov.UK.

4.9 Responsible use of the countryside

4.9.1 Countryside Code

The Countryside Code contains statutory guidance on responsibilities for visitors to the countryside and those who manage the land. This is available as leaflet downloads from <u>GOV.UK and contains the most recent updates.</u>

4.9.2 Example of encouraging shared use

New share the trail signs were developed and installed at these local byways:

- Penfurzen Lane
- Hogoak Lane
- Snipes Lane
- Hawthorn Lane
- Berry Lane

The purpose of the new signs is to encourage responsible and courteous use of the byways by all users i.e. horse riders, trail riders, walkers horse-drawn carriages, motor vehicles and cyclists. There are different versions of the signs, with and without 4X4's, as some of the byways are subject to width restrictions.

This project was run by The Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF), in partnership with LCAF, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Bracknell Forest Council, Ramblers and British Horseriding Society (BHS).

The TRF is keen to encourage bikers and horse riders to share the trail with consideration and respect. Every encounter is an opportunity to improve relationships between two groups of countryside users that simply want to be out riding and enjoying the countryside.

Further guidance about sharing the trail is available on the TRFs website.



Figure 5 shows a copy of the Share the trail sign and publicity photos taken at the unveiling of the new sign at Berry Lane (Warfield Byway 4).

4.10 Cross-border opportunities

Nothing to add.

4.11 Designated and promoted routes

Nothing to add.

4.12 Information and marketing

The online PRoW fault reporting form referenced in this section has been combined with the general parks and countryside enquiry form. Residents can still click on a button to report a RoW fault, which takes them to the above referenced form.

There's been a shift towards providing online copies of leaflets, such as the LCAF recruitment leaflet and Bracknell Forest Ramblers Route. However, BFC still provides limited paper copies for those who can't access online information.

See action 4. of the action plan table (Appendix A) for an update on the organised walks led by volunteers and rangers.

4.13 Conclusions

Nothing to add.

5. Use and demand

Each type of user of the rights of way network is considered in this section, and this is key to understanding how the network can be improved.

5.1 Rights of way users

This section (5.1.1 to 5.1.6) looks at the main uses of rights of way including walking, cycling, horse riding, carriage driving, motorised vehicle use and the additional needs of those who have reduced mobility.

5.1.5 Motorised vehicle users

There has been one Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) applied to a byway during the current lifespan of the plan. This is for Avery Lane, a byway in Warfield. It came into force on the 18 February 2019. The reasons given for the Order were:

- Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, paragraph (a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of such danger arising; and
- for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is especially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot.

PARISH	TYPE	NAME	LIMITATIONS_AND_CONDITIONS	
Binfield			TRO	
Bracknell BOAT		Quelm lane	TRO no vehicles or horses	
Crowthorne BOAT		(blank)	TRO	
	RB	Devil's Highway	TRO	
Sandhurst	BOAT	Part of Scotland Hill	TRO	
Warfield BOAT		Hawthorn Lane & Berry Lane	TRO 1.6m width restriction	
		Hogoak lane	TRO 1.6m width restriction	
		Pendry's Lane	TRO	
		Quelm lane	TRO TRO	
		Snipes Lane	TRO	
Avery		Avery Lane	TRO	
Winkfield BOAT		Part of Hogoak Lane	TRO 1.6m width restriction	
	RB	Sandy Lane	TRO	

Figure 6 Updated table of PRoW with TROs

NB - Yellow highlighted cell indicates where there has been a change in the information published in RoWIP2.

5.2 Bracknell Forest public consultation and feedback

No further consultation was conducted with rights of way users as part of this review. However, there are other consultations that can be drawn from to ascertain usage of rights of way and recreation routes. This is covered below.

The figures provided for use and demand were obtained through the survey conducted of rights of way users. While the figures were accurate at the time, it's likely that the use and demand of outdoor spaces, has changed over the past five years.

5.2.1 General findings to Survey

Nothing to add.

5.2.2 Changes to PRoW use and demand

Increased used during the coronavirus pandemic



Figure 7 Outdoor leisure activities, such as walking, became popular during the coronavirus pandemic.

The figures obtained for use and demand were derived from the rights of way survey conducted in 2017. They show how activities such as walking and cycling proved to be popular. There was a clear demand for greater availability of attractive, well connected countryside routes.

There has been a big surge in residents accessing greenspaces and using rights of way and recreational routes since the start of the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020. This demand in use has been observed by the Bracknell Forest rights of way team, and the Local Countryside Access Forum.

There is also evidence from various consultations of residents that the popularity of greenspaces and recreation routes has increased in recent years.

In July 2020 Bracknell Forest Council asked 1,800 residents about their experiences during the coronavirus pandemic through a phone survey. All responses were confidential, and the results are being used to help the council plan for the borough's recovery from coronavirus over the next three years.

Around six-in-ten residents spent more time in nature, visiting open spaces since lockdown began on 23 March and about half of residents tried a new form of exercise or exercised more.

At a national level, around 9 in 10 people surveyed by Natural England in May 2020 agreed that natural spaces are good for mental health and wellbeing. More than 40% noticed that nature, wildlife, and visiting local green and natural spaces have been even more important to their wellbeing when the coronavirus restrictions had begun.

Having access to outdoor spaces was very important to people during the coronavirus pandemic. It's encouraging that more residents in Bracknell Forest are enjoying accessing outdoor spaces more and deriving the benefits of having access to the natural environment.

It should also be noted that the demand in use has likely been fuelled by campaigns run by the NHS and the Government. When the restrictions for the various lockdowns were easing and indoor attractions were starting to open again, the advice provided to residents was that it's safer to meet outdoors.



Figure 8 Copy of one of the social media adverts used by NHS and HM Government during the coronavirus pandemic.

Further information about how the coronavirus lockdown changed our relationship with nature can be seen in an article by the <u>Office for National Statistics (ONS)</u>.Impact to outdoor spaces

The increased footfall has also put pressure on these outdoor spaces. In some cases, this has led to a decline in their condition, which has required further investment in the facilities.

In the February 2021 meeting of the Local Countryside Access Forum, members and officers discussed the increased use of local parks and countryside during the pandemic, which included Public Rights of Way (PRoWs).

The huge surge in people accessing outdoor spaces for fresh air and exercise, had led to many paths becoming eroded. The impact was particularly noticeable during the wetter autumn and winter months, and paths which were not surfaced were most at risk of damage. Many residents were also not using paths and walking on the grass beside the paths so they could socially distance.

Members noted that accessible routes which have good surfaces in areas such as Lily Hill Park were coping better with the increased usage.

The improvements made to the surface of rights of way, which are covered in Figure 6 of Appendix B, will help to mitigate for increased use and increase their year-round availability.

As new Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces (SANGs) were opened, residents would visit different places and decrease demand on individual sites.

5.3 The Local Countryside Access Forum (LCAF)

The Bracknell Forest LCAF was formed in March 2003 as a Statutory Requirement under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The forum consists of members each with an interest in access issues either as a user, landowner or other interest.

The Forum advises the council on securing more and better access to the countryside for open-air recreation within the borough. It is governed by the Local Access Forums (England) Regulations 2002.

Membership

Over the past five years there has been several changes to membership and the election of a new chairman in February 2019.

At the time of conducting this review, LCAF is fortunate to have good representation for rights of way users, users (e.g. walking, cycling and horse riding), Cllrs, environmental conservationists and trail riders. Members are very knowledgeable about Bracknell Forest rights of way and recreational routes. This is put to good use when discussing how to improve the connectivity of the local network of footpaths, byways, bridleways and cycleways.

There are a couple of areas where LCAF is seeking greater representation. This includes local landowners, to fill the gap left when the member from The Crown Estate left the forum. LCAF would also like to have disabled representation, to provide specialist advice and insight into improving the accessibility of rights of way and recreational routes.

The forum had to adapt quickly to the rapidly changing circumstances during the coronavirus pandemic. Since the first Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020, all meetings except one, have been held virtually. The few site visits that have gone ahead were conducted according to the current government guidelines at the time.

Members and officers adapted very well to these challenging circumstances. LCAF has continued to provide important specialist advice to Bracknell Forest Council. This includes recommendations for new routes, suggestions about how to improve access to rights of way and providing practical solutions for reducing the potential for conflict between users of local byways.

Members look forward to resuming their usual activities, which includes in-person meetings and site visits, when it is legally allowed, and deemed safe to do so.



Figure 9 There's a need to engage with residents with a disability, to better understand their access requirements to recreation routes and rights of way.

5.4 Conclusions

Nothing to add.

6. Evaluation & assessment

This section looks at the condition of the rights of way network and possible improvements. Most of the actions taken to address inadequacies in RoW/recreation provision, is contained in the updated action plan table (Appendix A) and the list of PRoW improvements (Appendix B).

7. RoWIP Polices

All the polices listed in this section are still relevant and are also listed against the individual actions in the action plan table.

8. Action plan

Progress review

A full review has been carried out of progress made with delivering actions identified in this plan, over the five-year period.

The review has been led by the Bracknell Forest Council rights of way team, with feedback provided by the transport team who manage the provision of the Bracknell Forest cycle network.

The Local Countryside Access Forum has also been consulted, as they are identified as a lead partner in eight of the actions and they also assist with the delivery of many others.

The feedback received has been used to provide an update against each of the actions in the action plan shown under Figure 4.

A traffic light colour-coding system has been used in the Action Plan table to indicate progress made against each of the actions. This is used in the new column 'Progress on actions' which also contain commentary. The Action Plan spans for 30 pages, so a more easily digestible summary is provided in Figure 7 below.

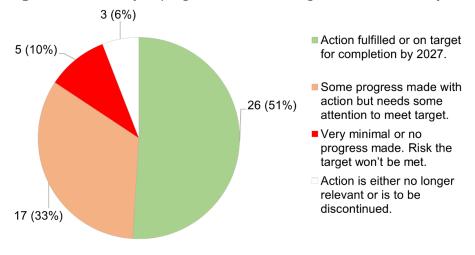


Figure 10 Summary of progress with delivering RoWIP2 actions by 2022.

Of the 51 targets set for action between 2017 and 2027, over half have either been fulfilled or on target for completion. Some progress has been made with many of the other actions, with only 5 actions remaining either stalled or facing the risk that they won't be completed by 2027.

The fact that so many are underway or are on target for completion is remarkable considering the challenges faced during the coronavirus pandemic. Between 2020 and 2021, there have been various lockdowns imposed by the Government, which have limited what physical improvements can be carried out to rights of way. Resources within the rights of way team has also been impacted where rights of way staff were temporarily seconded to sit elsewhere within the council.

See Appendix A for a copy of the action plan.

Locations and types of improvements

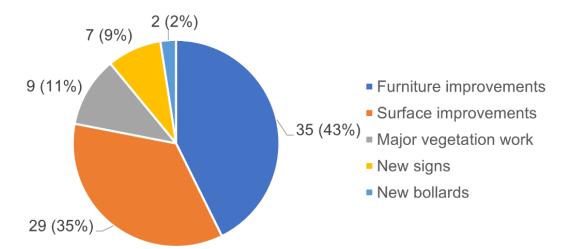


Figure 11 Type of access improvements to Bracknell Forest rights of way

The biggest improvements to access have been to replacing stiles with more accessible pedestrian gates or removing furniture altogether. Furniture has been improved in at least 35 instances. The good progress made in this regard can be attributed to the partnership approach, which is explained below.

The Bracknell Forest Local Countryside Access Forum (LCAF) advise Bracknell Forest Council rights of way team on where stiles still cause an issue for access. The BFC rangers liaise with the landowners who are responsible for the furniture, to arrange permission for the improvements. The rangers work with volunteers from the Bracknell Conservation Volunteers (BCVs) to deliver the physical improvements. The South East Berkshire Ramblers (part of the Ramblers Association) often fund the smaller projects but do not get involved with the practical side of the work.

This partnership-led approach to improving access to rights of way means that only one footpath in Binfield now has traditional stiles remaining.

The second biggest type of access improvement is to the surface of rights of way. There have been at least 29 examples of improvements delivered over the past five years. The need for improvements is primarily due to the following reasons:

- Resolve access issues caused by seasonal waterlogging
- To provide a more attractive route to encourage use

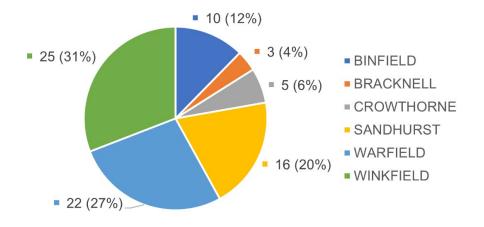
• Resolve damage caused to the surface of a byway by vehicular traffic

Improvements are funded by a variety of means, including maintenance budgets, money from local development (s106 contributions) and funded by external organisations such as Bracknell BID.

The provision of the bollards is associated with the creation of new Traffic Regulation Orders along byways. Signs have also been provided for TROs and for new public footpaths. Drainage work has been categorised as surface improvements to rights of way.

It should be noted that while every effort has been made to catalogue the physical improvements made to rights of way, it's likely that there have been examples missed off this list. For example, the vegetation work routinely carried out to maintain access to rights of way hasn't been included in these figures.

Figure 12 Access improvements by parish



The locations of the improvements has mainly been focused in Sandhurst, Winkfield and Warfield parishes. This is likely due to a variety of factors, such as:

- Sandhurst has the most rights of way out of all the parishes (34 compared to Crowthorne's 17), increasing likeliehood of improvements being needed.
- Improvements tend to be focused in more rural rights of way, with urban footpaths in Bracknell having less issues with old step-over stiles and flooding.
- There is strong membership representation on the Local Countryside Access Forum for Sandhurst, Winkfield and Warfield.
- Funding availability from local developments determines where the improvements can be delivered.

Resource requirements

A key is provided in the plan that sets out resource requirements for where BFC are identified as lead partner (which is for most actions):

 \checkmark actions that can be carried out within current staffing and budget resource (base 2017 – 2018)

 $\checkmark \checkmark$ actions which require Bracknell Forest Council resources to be reprioritised and/or involve external funding or in-kind contributions.

 $\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$ actions requiring planned investment. This funding may be wholly through external sources or require support from identified partners.

A list of funding options was referenced for action delivery. The funding used to deliver actions to date includes:

- Local Transport Plan 3
- S106 planning gain
- Bracknell BID
- BFC capital and revenue budgets
- Ramblers
- Capability Fund from the Department for Transport
- Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust
- The Crown Estate

Prioritising actions

Given existing resources it will prove difficult to achieve all the proposals contained in the action plan. This review has also undertaken a prioritisation of actions, as this provides a more realistic and flexible approach.

Figure 13 Priority of actions summary

Priority level	Description of priority levels	No. of actions
High (H)	 Legal obligation / statutory function Action unfulfilled and facing impending deadline Brings great value to RoW network and users Relates to public health and/or safety 	10
Medium/High (M/H)	 Delayed with delivery Brings value to RoW network Public health benefits Relates to another statutory function that has links with RoW e.g. SANGs Involves key stakeholders to RoW Big cost implication to council e.g. fly-tipping 	7
Medium (M)	 Action could be delivered within timescale, but requires some investment in time/resources Empowers residents to make informed choices about using RoW 	16
Medium/Low (M/L)	 Nice to have actions, that would provide benefits, but challenged by time/resources constraints 	4
Low (L)	 Action on target or fulfilled Wish list item Marginal benefit felt to users Better means for achieving action Too ambitious Low added value to RoW users 	10
No longer applicable	 Action is no longer relevant Doesn't relate to rights of way. Remove as part 	4
(N/A) Total	of next review	51

Future improvements

The Bracknell Forest Local Countryside Access Forum maintains a list of proposals to provide new or modified PRoWs and access routes.

This is in part derived from the table contained in Appendix H of RoWIP2, with modifications made by LCAF.

The forum assesses progress against each of these proposals at their meetings, which are held three times a year.

At least two of the improvements have been completed, which can be seen in a copy of the table in Appendix C and the example provided in Appendix D.

Review conclusion

Rights of Way are one part of a wide sustainable transport and recreation network, which includes SANGs, cycleways, green corridors and promoted recreation routes e.g. Three Castles Path. This network is open and useable by most residents and is maintained to a high standard.

Bracknell Forest SANGs provision and improvement, means that residents continue to gain new and improved places for recreation away from the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. When combined with the delivery of RoWIP2 actions, this presents an opportunity to further improve the useability of the network, to appeal to an even wider range of potential users.

A standout finding from this mid-term review has been how in the past five years, the physical accessibility of rights of way network has been improved. This includes path resurfacing to provide year-round accessibility and removing step-over stiles so there are now only a few left remaining in the borough. The good progress made with delivering RoWIP2 actions is all the more impressive given the challenging circumstances faced over the past three years, caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The success can be attributed to factors including:

- a proactive Local Access Forum whose volunteers are passionate about improving access to countryside in Bracknell Forest for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area.
- the support of volunteers, such as paths wardens, the Bracknell Conservation Volunteers (BCVs) and student placements.
- good partnership working, within the Rights of Way team and between other BFC officers, and lead partner organisations identified in the Action plan.
- success in sourcing external funding for improvements, where maintenance budgets wouldn't cover the cost.

Access to outdoor recreational opportunities, such as walking, cycling and horse-riding, continues to be of importance to Bracknell Forest residents. It's important to maintain the momentum already gained in the first half of this plan, so we can provide more residents with the tools they need to access these recreational opportunities and enjoy the health and wellbeing benefits associated with physical outdoor physical activity.

Appendices

Appendix A – Progress with delivering actions

Green: Fulfilled or on target for completion by 2027. Orange: Some progress made but needs some attention to meet target. Red: Very minimal or no progress made. Risk the target won't be met. White: No longer relevant or is to be discontinued.

Figure 14 Action Plan table

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
1.	Review and update the circular countryside walking routes available on the council's website. Also review circular cycling routes on Rights of Way and with links to adopted highway cyclepaths and permissive route in public open spaces.	4.3	•	BFC LCAF Highway Authority	Number of PDF routes / maps updated and available on BFCs website by 2021	Some progress has been made. - SANGs circular walks leaflets in the process of being updated and expanded to include new sites at Peacock Meadows and the Bullbrook Countryside Corridor. - We have developed 5 circular routes for cycling and walking using the existing traffic- free network of shared walking/cycling paths	Medium/Low Some good progress has already been made on this action. Once SANGs leaflets have been updated, to review remaining circular walks information on BFCs walking page.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
						(rather than PROWs). These are in the process of being signed (using vinyl stickers on existing street furniture) and will be launched this year (2022). Countryside walk route removed for Wildmoor Heath, due to needing to protect the wildlife in the Thames Basin Heaths SPA.	
2.	Review and update the 3 Accessible Rural Route guides	4.3	✓	BFC and LCAF (added as a lead contact) Disability Groups	Number of leaflets updated and available on BFCs website by 2021, with hard copies available upon request	Out of date accessible route guides removed from BFC website due to being out-of-date. Leaflet being developed for new route via Cabbage Hill, which has been recommended by LCAF. Further routes to be developed in conjunction with LCAF and BFC.	Medium It's realistic to expect at least one other accessible route could be developed. It would help to have disabled representation on the forum to assist with this and drive the action forward.
3.	Use social media and press releases to advertise PRoW,	4.1, 4.2	✓	BFC	A minimum of 4 articles / events	Target was developed before we stopped providing the	Medium/low

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	events and other outdoor recreation opportunities e.g. the annual WOW Week of Walks led by the Bracknell Forest Society			Bracknell Forest Society Bracknell Forest Natural History Society Thames Basin Heaths Partnership The Crown Estate Town / Parish Councils NHS	publicised each month	ranger/volunteer led free walks, which we advertised each month. Also impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Department For Transport funding used to promote active travel opportunities. Promotional films produced to encourage residents to explore their greenspaces on foot and by bike. These events to be advertised through a variety of means, such as BFC Town and Country newspaper. BFC website (<u>events</u> <u>page</u>) used to promote walks events, with comms then signposted to the events page.	Publicity and marketing for PRoW and outdoor recreation is based on an ad-hoc basis and is difficult to measures against key performance indicators.
4.	Organise guided countryside/park walks for the public each year	4.1	√ √	BFC SE Berks Ramblers	A minimum of 10 walks held each year	Volunteer-led walks were held monthly up until February 2020. Organised walks couldn't take place	Low No organised walks by BFC currently proposed for 2023 onwards.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
				Bracknell Forest Society		during 2020-2021, during the coronavirus pandemic. In spring / summer 2022, a series of 'Greenspaces guided walks' were run, which were funded as part of the Capability Fund from the Department for Transport. This supports local transport authorities with producing cycling and walking facilities and activities.	These are resource intensive and there are usually low attendance numbers Instead, look at empowering residents to do their own walks, by providing the tools they need e.g. route maps and guides.
5.	Support existing healthy walking and green exercise schemes and back the development of new initiatives	4.1, 7.1	v	BFC – Parks & Countryside Service and Public Health NHS Jealott's Hill Community Landshare	Publicise initiatives and schemes including 'Sandhurst Health Walks' and 'Short, Easy Taster Walk' from South Hill Park via the Community Map on Public Health Portal	The need to focus on improving public health has become more prominent following the coronavirus pandemic. The <u>walking page</u> on our public Health portal now signposts to our countryside walks. The Happiness Hub (Berkshire) is also organising a week of	Medium/high To support public health initiatives where relevant, to ai the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.

Encoura	Encourage use of PRoW via events, publicity and marketing.								
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years		
						activities, including walks, in May.			
						Public health funding provided to new Green and Active Heroes. This is a green volunteering scheme with BFC working with local charity Involve. A new Green Volunteer coordinator is helping to promote activities that improve resident's health and wellbeing, such as conservation volunteering.			
6.	Explore using mobile phone apps to promote the use and enjoyment of outdoor recreation and Rights of Way. Make GPX routes available on council website available to download.	4.5	✓	BFC	GPX routes available on BFCs website by 2021	Not completed by 2021 target. Digital tree trail being created for Lily Hill Park, using QR codes. We don't have any cycle maps in GPX format. It is something we are looking into as part of development of our interactive cycle map.	Low This is a 'nice to have' action and will be lower priority than some of the other actions that improve access to RoW.		

Mapping	Mapping and cataloguing the network.								
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years		
7.	Keep the Definitive Map and Statement (DMS) up to date by processing Modification Order applications	2.1	√ √	BFC	Up-to-date copy kept of the Definitive Map and Statement (DMS)	On target. See action ref. 9 below for 10 year review during 2022. GIS version of PRoW mapping kept up to date. Working copy of Definitive Statement has insertions with Modifications to be incorporated.	High Statutory obligation		
8.	Ensure a hard copy of the last consolidated DMS is available to view by the public	2.1	✓	BFC	Copy available at Time Square office	On target. Hard copy available to view at Bracknell Library. Limited with access to the hard copy during the coronavirus pandemic 2020-2022 as council offices closed to public.	High Statutory obligation		
9.	Produce a third consolidated DMS of PRoW in Bracknell Forest, which identifies and addresses anomalies in the current DMS	2.1	√√√	BFC LCAF Natural England Town/Parish Councils Neighbouring LAFs and LAs	Completed by January 2023	On target to complete third consolidation of Definitive Map and Statement in early 2023.	High Statutory obligation.		

Mapping	Mapping and cataloguing the network.									
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years			
10.	Provide and maintain an up-to- date online web- based map service showing PRoW, open access land, cycleways, 24 hour accessible defibrillators and public transport hubs. Include detail of potential impediments to access such as gates and stiles. Give consideration to mapping quality of the network examining factors such as fragmentation. (Consultation feedback ref. no 41).	1.3, 1.5, 8,2		BFC	PRoW map available to the public on BFCs website by 2018 Expand on this map to include impediments to access and other key information to promote a safe and accessible wider green infrastructure network by 2021.	On target Map available to view from our <u>public rights of</u> <u>way page</u> . Consultation comment ref. no. 1 LCAF member requested mapping of defibrillators. Providing this information isn't part of a rights of way function. There are other online resources available from organisations such as British Heart Foundation. Mapping the quality of the network isn't something we'd look to explore currently. This review has highlighted how rights of way are already being maintained to a high standard with significant improvements having been carried out over the past five years.	Medium/high Focus needs to be ensuring Definitive Map and Statement are kept up-to-date. Useful to map other features on PRoW to empower residents to explore the local area using RoW, cycleways and greenspaces.			

Mapping	Mapping and cataloguing the network.								
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years		
						BVPIs are no longer conducted, but inspections of rights of way by volunteers would identify any issues to access that needs to be delt with by the rights of way team.			
11.	Carry out an audit of PRoW signs, from metalled roads	1.1, 2.5, 5.2, 10.1	✓ ✓	BFC Volunteer path wardens	By January 2021, to have a GIS dataset / map of PRoW signs, which details location, type and condition.	No map produced. Volunteer Path Inspections identify missing or damaged signs as part of path inspections that take place every six months. Waymarkers should also be included under this action, as they are perhaps more useful when exploring RoW.	Low Data is already collected and doesn't necessarily need to be mapped to see where potential improvements are needed. Priority needs to be given to mapping furniture on PRoW which will prove beneficial.		
12.	Catalogue all stiles and gates on PRoW	1.1, 1.2, 10.1	√ √	BFC Volunteer path wardens	By January 2021, to have a GIS map of PRoW stiles and gates, identifying the location, type, condition and	Binfield, Bracknell, Warfield and Sandhurst parishes mapped in 2018-19. To add remaining records for Winkfield and Crowthorne in 2022. To quality check all records	Medium/high. Action has already stalled significantly. PRoW furniture maps can be used to identify few		

Mapping	g and cataloguing t	he network.					
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
					those that need removing/replaci ng	before publishing. Work has been significantly delayed due to mapping officer being on secondment before and during the pandemic. Ref. consultation comment no. 13 i.e. useful to map the priority projects you have identified.	remaining stiles to be improved. Residents will be better informed about the accessibility of PRoW. It will also showcase the work done to improve network accessibility.
Maintair Action ref.	ning the network, its Proposed Actions	s legal statu RoWIP Policies	s and condition. Resource Requirements	Key Organisation	Performance Measures /	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	Actions		Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Timescales			
13.	Inspect the condition of path network annually, using the 'ease of use' criteria (formerly Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) 178).	10.1	√ √	BFC Volunteer Path Wardens	% of the path network audited each year	BVPIs no longer routinely completed by Rangers. Volunteer Path Inspectors still carry out inspections as part of their visits. Sandhurst Town Councillors report on their 'allocated' paths.	No longer applicable To continue the path inspections. The next RoWIP review to update this reference.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
14.	Ensure that footbridges and culverts on PRoW, that cross natural obstacles, are safe.	2,3, 10.1		BFC Volunteer path wardens Bracknell Conservation Volunteers	Footbridges pass inspection as part of the monitoring using BVPI 178.	Rangers have just completed a catalogue of all bridges. Bridges on PRoW are currently inspected under the highway's structures contract with Atkins. In future, it is likely that we will inspect small wooden, bridges (such as Warfield FP24) in- house and include as part of volunteer path inspections. Larger structures (e.g. Pendry's Lane), will continue to be part of our contract with Atkins. Those requiring repair, will be done so in a timely fashion.	High To maintain safety standards.
15.	Replace PRoW signs that are identified as falling below the standard set out in NE guidance and	2.5, 5.2	√ √	BFC Volunteer path wardens	New signage provided when required	All paths are signposted were required.	Medium Will replace signs a and when required

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	provide new signs where there are gaps			Bracknell Conservation Volunteers			
16.	Case Officers consult P&C Rights of Way team on planning applications where the proposed development is likely to directly impact on a PRoW e.g. requires diversion, closure. RoWIP2 should be quoted in planning responses to add weight to comments. A new process linked to planning needs to be explored whereby LCAF are kept informed and are consulted on these types of applications	6.3, 9.3		BFC Parks and Countryside and Planning Authority LCAF	A more robust process whereby LCAF can easily comment on planning applications with a direct impact on PRoW	On target. BFC officers update members at tri- annual meetings about where a local development could have an impact on PRoW. Reported on Warfield SPD development area incorporating existing bridleway, and how new links will be developed to this route. Reported on effect of new Local Plan on PRoW around Jealott's Hill, if approved. LCAF and BFC formed a sub-group where they can discuss planning matters that impact RoW.	High Local development could have a big impact on local righ of way. It's importar this is carefully managed.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
17.	Respond to reported faults and issues with PRoW; including enforcing removal of illegal obstructions and re-instatement after ploughing or secure removal of crops.	2.4, 2.6, 2.9		BFC	Percentage of PRoW network that is considered 'easy to use' according to the former BVPI 178.	Reports, such as footpath obstructions caused by fallen tree branches, are responded to in a timely fashion. PRoW team is often complimented on their efficiency. Matters involving landowners and PRoW users can sometimes become a little more complicated and take more time to resolve.	High Legal responsibility
18.	To process notices for removing hedgerows and enforce instances where they have been removed illegally	6.2, 7.2	✓	BFC - The Local Planning Authority	Response provided within 42 days of receipt of written notice. Enforcement carried out where an offence is committed under The Hedgerows Regulations 1997	This is unrelated to rights of way.	Not applicable Doesn't relateto PRoW actions – remove in next production of RoWI

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
19.	Process temporary closures of PRoW where required	2.1		BFC Applicant for TTRO	PRoW legally closed for a temporary period of up to 6 months and appropriate diversion route and signs provided	Three examples of TTROs: Crowthorne FP17/Sandhurst FP24 (boardwalk repair, five day closure in March 2022) Bracknell FP17 (filming, one day closure in Oct 2021) Winkfield FP19 where FP runs across polo pitches, 6 month TTRO extended twice by Sec of State.	High. Will need completing on an ad-hoc basis when applications come through.

Creating	g new routes and li	nks.					
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
20.	Encourage and investigate suggestions for routes to be added to the DMS or	1.2, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5	✓	BFC Landowners LCAF	Reports to LCAF on findings or progress of the investigations	Some progress made e.g. • Cabbage Hill to Hazelwood Lane path idea	Medium Huge benefits to be gained to improving outdoor access, but likely to encounter

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	through permissive agreement					 Sandhurst FPs 26 & 27 confirmed. Bracknell FPs 21 & 24 Provision of new user evidence form See Appendix C – Proposed PRoW improvements and access routes 	difficulties in getting some of the agreements from landowners to establish new permissive routes.
21.	Identify possible shared cycling routes and continue association with partners to develop possible routes in the borough.	3.3, 3.6, 7.3, 7.4, 8.2	√ √	BFC – Parks & Countryside Service and Transport Development LCAF	To feed suggestions into the BFC Infrastructure Delivery Plan	We are refreshing the Local Walking and Cycling Improvement Plan (LCWIP). As of 15 Feb 2022, we have received 1600 comments/feedback from the public about improvements they'd like to see.	Medium
22.	Provide links to circular / multi-use routes in existing and future Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces (SANGs) with the	3.4	√ √	BFC	To feed suggestions into the BFC Infrastructure Delivery Plan and feed into site specific	SANGs developed with circular routes. Bullbrook Countryside Corridor is a new SANGs route that connects open spaces with rights of way.	Medium/high Obligation to delive SANGs and it make sense to link them t RoW where appropriate.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	public Rights of Way network				planning applications	The new The Cut SANG is like Bullbrook and links to wider sites and some PRoW.	
						Blue Mountain SANG connects to Bin FP10	
						Frost Folly and Windmill Meadows SANGs connect to Warfield FPs	
23.	Undertake an audit of missing links and develop proposals for the creation of new PRoW in priority locations	1.2, 3.3	$\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$	BFC LCAF Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership	Annual review of missing links to update BFC Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Potential PRoW improvements, and missing links information submitted as part of the IDP. This includes suggestions developed by LCAF members.	Medium
						Reviewed at LCAF meetings, held three times a year.	
24.	New routes or improvements to existing routes should be designed to minimise conflict, for example, by ensuring widths, surfaces, furniture (including way	1.2, 2.7, 5.2	√ √	BFC LCAF	New routes or improvements to routes are of an accessible design to the intended users	New 'Share the trail' signs developed by the Trail Riders Fellowship, in partnership with BFC, LCAF, BHS & Ramblers and other local authorities. These have been positioned at five byways in the borough	Medium

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	marking) and sight lines enable permitted users to use the path in harmony and with confidence					e.g. Hogoak Lane, Berry Lane, Hawthorn Lane, Snipes Lane and Penfurzen Lane. Horses regularly use Sandhurst FP22 near Horseshoe Lake to access neighbouring Wokingham bridleway. Working to find a solution to conflict between pedestrians and horse riders along this riverside path.	

Improvir	ng access to PRoW.						
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
25.	Replace stiles with gaps, staggered barriers, bridle gates or kissing gates and carry out surface improvements to	1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.7	\checkmark	BFC LCAF SE Berks Ramblers	To report to LCAF on an annual basis the percentage of PRoW where access	Furniture has been improved along public rights of way in at least 34 instances.	Medium/High A lot of good progress has already been made in improving

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	PRoW where accessibility is impeded by seasonal waterlogging			Ramblers Bracknell Conservation Volunteers	has been improved by removing stiles and improving surface conditions. Cross reference with BS5709:2006	There are now very few step-over stiles remaining, and this work has vastly improved the accessibility of the RoW network. FP surface has been improved in at least 22 instances. See Appendix B for a full list of PRoW accessibility improvements delivered from 2017 onwards.	the accessibility of local PRoW. It's important to continue this good forward momentum.
26.	Explore with landowners and PRoW users the opportunities for the diversion of PRoW to remove the need for the public to use busy stretches of highway to reach a connecting path	3.1	√ √	BFC Landowners LCAF Ramblers British Horse Society Cycling UK	To feed suggestions into the BFC Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Rail crossing order completed. Cabbage Hill path proposal delayed owing to negotiations being stalled with landowners.	Medium

Improvir	ng access to PRoW.						
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
27.	Identify and promote existing PRoW that are suitable for users with reduced mobility	1.2, 1.4, 1.5	✓	BFC Local Disability Groups	See action no. 2 and 10.	See update under action 2.	Medium
Working	in partnership and c	ooperation.					
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
28.	Work with neighbouring LAFs and highway authorities to identify and address cross boundary Rights of Way anomalies and explore opportunities for promoting PRoW and circular routes. Explore ways of improving consistency in signage and waymarking on cross- boundary routes.	8.5		BFC and LCAF LAFs – RBWM, Slough, Mid and West Berks, Hampshire, Surrey LAs - RBWM, Slough, Wokingham BC, Hampshire CC, Surrey CC	LCAF member attendance at neighbouring LAFs / local Chairs meetings – at least one per year	In 2017 LCAF representatives attended the regional LAF Chairs meeting and the annual conference organised by Natural England. RBWM site visit to review the partnership work to implement the TRO on rural cross boundary Byways. Chairman attended a site visit to California Country Park where £600,000 had been spent on updating the path.	Medium/Low

Action	Proposed Actions	RoWIP	Resource	Key	Performance	Progress on	Priorities over
ref.	•	Policies	Requirements	Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Measures / Timescales	actions	next 5 years
						In January 2018, BFC hosted another regional LAF Chairs meeting.	
						Progress stalled 2020- 2022 by coronavirus pandemic.	
						Sign consistency – RBWM included in Share the Trail sign project for Hogoak Lane.	
						Regional chairs meeting in January 2023.	
29.	Maintain a good	8.1	\checkmark	BFC and LCAF	At least one	On target. Usually two,	Medium/High
	working relationship between BFC and LCAF, with the Forum providing advice to promote PRoW and outdoor recreation				BFC officer from Parks & Countryside to attend the x3 LCAF meetings each year	sometimes three officers attend.	LCAF are Lead Partners in many actions identified in RoWIP2 and the specialist advice they give to BFC officers continue to be of great importance.
30.	Recognise and	8.3	\checkmark	BFC and LCAF	Invitations sent	Whilst invitations	Medium
	encourage increased participation of each			Towns / Parishes	to Towns / Parishes to	haven't been sent for path champions, we	

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities ove next 5 years
	Town/Parish Council through regular communication and reporting.			Parish Parks and Public Realm Forum	appoint a path champion as the key contact with LCAF and the Highway Authority, by 2018 (NB Sandhurst Town Council and Warfield Parish Council already do this)	already have this role with Sandhurst and Warfield. The town and parish councils continue to provide important financial support towards PRoW maintenance. Annual PRoW report sent to Parish and Town Councils. Updates also provided at Parish Park and Public Realm Forum meetings.	
31.	Share information about the work of the BFC PRoW Ranger to promote continuing financial support for the post	8.3	✓	BFC Towns / Parishes	Information provided to Towns / Parishes each year	Updates provided to T/P Councils in BFC officer attendance at Parish Park and Public Realm Forum meetings. Update provided to Departmental Management Team in 2019 and 2020, also sent to T/P Councils. Gap in these reports due to pandemic.	Medium

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
32.	Ensure appropriate policies to protect and enhance PRoW network are included in planning frameworks	6.3, 9.3		BFC	Policies included in the POSS Study by end of 2017, the Comprehensiv e Local Plan when finalised, and Neighbourhoo d Plans as these are developed. Money secured for PRoW improvement and protection through the development control process e.g. s106 legal agreements.	Policy included in the POSS Study and the Emerging Comprehensive Local Plan. Rights of way improvements delivered in some cases by s106 funding e.g. Binfield FP 10 and Sandhurst FP15.	High
33.	Work with disability groups to identify routes linked to settlements or popular countryside destinations in	1.2, 1.4, 3.3, 3.5	✓	LCAF Bracknell Forest Access Group	Identify and contact local disability groups and update	Disabled representation still sought to sit on LCAF. (Previously provided	High Priority to be given to seeking disabled

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	Bracknell Forest which can be improved to facilitate access for all			Disability Groups to be identified	Infrastructure Delivery plan	by advocacy charity Be Heard) Site visit with 'tramper' group to better understand using these vehicles to access the countryside. Bin FP11 project, squeeze stiles and small kissing gates have been replaced, while other improvements have been delayed due to land ownership changes.	representation or LCAF.
34.	Develop and reinvigorate the network of volunteers working on PRoW, providing them with the training and tools to better maintain local paths	8.4		BFC Volunteer path wardens LCAF Bracknell Conservation Volunteers South East Berkshire Ramblers	Percentage of maintenance carried out by volunteers on PROW reviewed annually at LCAF meetings.	Path wardens/inspectors' complete practical maintenance. Parks and Countryside services record green volunteering hours (see below) but consider if we add figures for FP inspectors in future LCAF annual reports.	High Volunteers are integral in helping to deliver PRoW inspections and improvements. Green and Active Heroes scheme might help to widen the pool of volunteers

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
				Add recently formed group: Binfield Environment Group		2019 = 6414.5 hrs 2020 = 2651.2 hrs 2021 = 4238.5 hrs	available to assis in works.
35.	Monitor illegal use of footpaths and bridleways by other PRoW users and take action to address this	5.3, 8.6		BFC Landowners Local Police Community Safety Team	Reduction in illegal use of PRoW	Very few incidences of illegal use of Public Rights of Way. Width restriction TROs in northern byways challenged by criminal damage to bollards. Working with RBWM and landowners to reinforce physical restrictions. The more pressing issue is illegal fly- tipping on rights of way, which we're working closely with Community Safety Team, PPP and Local Police to tackle.	Medium/High Fly-tipping is becoming an increasing problem for landowners and local authorities.
36.	Work with road safety organisations, the Community Safety Partnership and user groups to raise	8.2	✓	LCAF Safer Roads Partnership BFC	A campaign developed that ties in with actions 3 and 27	Minimal progress. To review where PRoW safety might be an issue and work with the relevant partners	Low If there's an identified need fo a campaign to promote safety to

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	awareness of the need to protect PRoW users, particularly those more vulnerable			British Horse Society Ramblers Cycling UK		to run a campaign to raise awareness.	PRoW users, this will be escalated to a high priority.
37.	Work with the Thames Basin Heaths Partnership to encourage responsible use of PRoW in the SPA e.g. adhering to paths and keeping dogs on lead during ground bird nesting season	5.4, 7.2	✓	Thames Basin Heaths Partnership BFC Natural England SPA Wardens	Publicity issued between March-July, 2018-2027. Linked with actions 3 and 46	BFC comms input provided into various publicity issued by the TBHP during peak bird nesting season e.g. wildfire awareness and keeping dogs on leads. Special Protection <u>Area - Thames Basin</u> <u>Heaths</u> (tbhpartnership.org.uk)	Medium
38.	Work with Blackwater Valley Partnership on links to sections of the Blackwater Valley Path in Bracknell Forest, and to assist in the target of filling- in the 'missing links' in the riverside path through Sandhurst	3.3, 3.4, 4.6, 8.5	√ √	Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership	Representative of Blackwater Valley Partnership invited to LCAF meetings periodically to discuss and review actions relating to	Minimal engagement with BVCT since feedback to RoWIP2 consultation in 2017 (comment ref. 28). LCAF to consider reaching out to them with list of suggested FP improvements?	Low Management of Blackwater River through Shephere Meadows, and Horseshoe Lake, handled by P&C rangers.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
					missing links in BFC		
Raising Action ref.	awareness of PRoW Proposed Actions	and profile o RoWIP Policies	of LCAF. Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
39.	Integrate RoWIP with other policies and strategies e.g. BAP, Parks and Open Spaces Strategy, POSS Study, LTP3. See Chapter 3.	8.2, 9.1, 9.3	✓	BFC	POSS - 2017 BAP and Tree Strategy – 2018 New Parks and Open Spaces Strategy - 2019	Fulfilled. An update on all policies and strategies linked to RoWIP2 is referenced in Section 3 of this review, Policy Context. This includes reference to the Neighbourhood Plans, which was mentioned by Binfield Parish Council as part of the consultation feedback in 2017.	Low Has already been fulfilled for POSS, BAP, Tree Strategy and GI review. This doesn't rule out the need to Integrate RoWIP with future/ strategies.
40.	Develop landowners' / managers' awareness of their responsibilities for maintenance and the importance of public Rights of Way	2.4, 5.1, 7.1,	✓	BFC	A new page added to BFCs website by 2018 detailing landowners' responsibility	PRoW web page updated, signposting landowners to <u>advice</u> <u>from Gov.UK.</u> PRoW team has good record of	Low Little else we can do in this regard, except continue the good

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	and public access to land				relating to PRoW on their land	communicating with landowners.	communications with landowners.
41.	Promote membership to LCAF	8.1	✓	BFC and LCAF	Standing LCAF agenda item of 'New members' to maintain a minimum of 10 Forum members	New logo (branding) and leaflet developed for LCAF. Web pages updated to make them more appealing. Includes an online membership application form. Membership now stands at 12. This dropped off for a time to less than 10, possibly due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.	Medium/Low LCAF has 11 members at the time of conductin this review. A membership of 10 is the minimum number required for LAFs accordir to the regulations It would be good to encourage disabled representation. See action 33.
42.	Review List of Streets and Definitive Map and statement (DMS) to assess whether paths need to be added or removed	8.2	√ √	BFC and LCAF	To report progress at LCAF meetings	BFC maintains a list of streets, as this is a duty under <u>section</u> <u>36(6)</u> of the Highways Act 1980. The Council's GIS team have included some Public Rights of Way on the list of streets, but it's not realistic to include	Low It's unlikely highway authorities includ all publicly maintainable public rights of way on their list. But it is not unusual to find urban alleyways

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
						every other linkage and cut through. LCAF noted in their June 2017 meeting that if unrecorded rights of way were included in the list of streets, the cut off in the deregulation bill would not apply to it.	and some byways open to all traffic on the list of streets.
43.	Identify key tourism hubs in the Borough where enhancements to PRoW would deliver benefits to the local economy	4.1, 4.2, 7.5	✓ ✓	BFC	By 2021	Key tourism hubs would be: -The Lexicon in the town centre -The Look Out Discovery Centre Bracknell Leisure Centre - Coral Reef Waterworld - South Hill Park arts centre and grounds Access improvements could deliver benefits to the local economy. E.g., the work by Bracknell BID on Bracknell FP6A and 26.	Low There are higher priorities to focus on.

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
44.	Extend links between LCAF and Town /Parish Councils	8.3	 ✓ 	BFC and LCAF Town/parish councils	LCAF Chair to contact T/P Clerks to request an invite to a Parish, Parks and Public Realm Forum meeting	BFC officers act as a bridge between LCAF and T/P Councils. They attend LCAF meetings and Parish Parks and Public Realm Forum meetings to give updates to Town and Parish Councils.	Medium

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
45.	Give consideration to including 'No Cycling' signs on footpaths where there's a perceived conflict between users	5.2,	*	BFC	Reduction of reports of cycling on footpaths	No cycling signs exist on a few paths but unclear about their effectiveness. Where there's a perceived conflict, consider providing new signs. We have recently put up Share with Care signs and 'SLOW' markings on a	Low Could create a conflict with cyclists, and there's no evidence that these signs work.

Encoura	age responsible use o	f PRoW.					
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
						shared footway/cycleway by the Coral Reef footbridge (on the New Forest Ride side). Where there's scope, explore widening the path to accommodate both types of users.	
46.	Promote the Dog Walking Code of Conduct and consider including anti dog fouling signs on PRoW	5.4	*	BFC Thames Basin Heaths Partnership	Leaflet available on BFCs walking / PRoW web pages and promoted via social media Signs are made available on PRoW where there's an issue with dog fouling	The code of conduct leaflet has been out of hard copy circulation now for a while. We have a <u>dog walking</u> <u>page</u> on our website, which covers all of the key information.	No longer relevant Remove action as part of the next RoWIP review.

Monitor	ing and review.						
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
47.	Review progress with actions carried out in RoWIP. Report monitoring outcomes to Departmental Management Team	10.2	√ √	BFC LCAF	A traffic light system used to assess progress with actions each year. First review to be carried out in 2018 with a mid-term review in Jan 2021	On target. Reports provided to DMT each year. Mid-term review required by end of 2022, which is halfway through the lifespan of RoWIP2.	Medium

Additior	Additional action plan items expected following public consultation.								
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years		
48.	Applicable actions will be added prior to publication of the final plan				25 October 2017	Complete	No longer relevant		

Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
49.	Seek to complete the 'missing' sections of the Blackwater Valley Path in Sandhurst Town	1.2, 3.3, 4.6,	√ √ √	BFC Blackwater Valley Partnership		Continuing to research opportunities.	Medium Help add weight to planning decisions in the areas of missing links, and to support the Blackwater Valley Partnership.
50.	Seek to provide a safer cycling route parallel to Nine Mile Ride by enabling a permissive cycle route on Bracknell Footpath 22	1.2, 8.2	√ √	BFC		Slight delays to this potential improvement after some initial progress was made. Keen to progress again with exploring an opportunity to identify what adjustments might be needed to the path – e.g., local widening - to formally accommodate cyclists on this path.	Medium
51.	Seek to create a bridleway link from Warfield development area north and west to Hazelwood Lane,	1.2, 3.3	$\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$	BFC Developer contributions		Progress with path link to Hazelwood Lane across land owned by Thames Water has been slow. Links to War BR 26 are	Medium

New Paths and Linkages							
Action ref.	Proposed Actions	RoWIP Policies	Resource Requirements	Key Organisation Lead Partner(s) in Bold	Performance Measures / Timescales	Progress on actions	Priorities over next 5 years
	and east to Warfield Bridleway 26					included in community hub proposals for north side of Priory Fields, including Pegasus crossing on Newell Green.	

Appendix B – PRoW improvements over the past 5 years.

A lot of work has been carried out over the past five years to improve the network for users. This is set out in this table, with the work categorised according to if the improvements are to:

- furniture e.g. removing squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles
- right of way surface
- new routes and links
- other improvements

Figure 15 List of PRoW improvements during RoWIP2, 2017-2027

Date	Where?	Improvement
2017/18	RoW	Squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles removed:
	Winkfield FP5	2 new metal pedestrian gates
	Winkfield FP13	1 new wooden pedestrian gate
	Winkfield FP9	1 new accessible gate
	Winkfield FP8	3 stiles replaced with accessible pedestrian gates
		Surface improvements:
	Winkfield FP9	1 new accessible footbridge
18 Jun 18	Sandhurst FP18	Veg clearance and 50 tons of scalpings added, to mitigate wet conditions.
	Warfield BW10	Hogoak Lane improvement connected to TRO i.e. new bollards, signage, and resurfacing
	Bracknell FP8	Resurfacing to mitigate wet conditions
	Yateley FP503	Path surfacing at Shepherd Meadows (Hampshire County Council FP reference)
		Links:
		A link from Ralphs Ride to the open space at the Parks development.
		A link between the Parks and Harmanswater open space (partly completed)
		Link between Anneford Place to Jock's Lane (via Elen Place) or through new open space and a new bridge across The Cut.
		New footbridge over Blackwater River and via Yateley FP503 to improve pedestrian access.

Date	Where?	Improvement
2018/19		'Squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles removed:
13 Feb 18	Winkfield FP8	1 old stile removed and replaced with new accessible gate
	Winkfield FP5	1 old stile removed and replaced with new accessible gate
11 Oct 18	Warfield FP14	1 new kissing gate on Ashmore Lane
		Surface:
21 Feb 18	Winkfield FP19	Fixed ditch crossing
	Sandhurst FP13	Resurfacing of Calvert Walk
	Sandhurst FP22	Resurfacing
	Warfield BW8	Single track byway surfaced with road planings
	Sandhurst FP5	Repairs and replacement paving slabs to steps
28 Aug 18	Warfield BW1	Resurfacing around entrance gate of Snipes Lane using 5 ton of loose stone
		Other:
	Multiple	Vegetation maintenance - 14,863m of verge flailing and 16,188m of strimming/hedge- cutting by contractors twice per year.
	Sandhurst FP5a	Reduction of overgrowth
	Warfield BW17	Land manager's removed low tree limbs encroaching onto Pendry's Lane
	Winkfield FP10	Somerton farm have removed blockage
	Winkfield FP3	Land manager's cleared vegetation
	Warfield BR19	Thames Water have installed bollards along their section of Hazelwood Lane bridleway to reduce fly-tipping issues.
	Winkfield FP19 & Winkfield FP5	Repairs to ditch crossings through Winkfield FP19, Spinningwheel lane and Winkfield FP5
2019/20		'Squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles removed:
	Winkfield FP19	4 new wooden pedestrian gates, 1 metal gate and 1 metal kissing gate
	Winkfield FP7	4 new wooden pedestrian gates
	Binfield FP21	New wooden pedestrian gate
26 May 2019	Warfield FP12	2 new accessible gates replacing a step-over stile and squeeze gate.
		Surface:
	Warfield FP23	Improvements to surface including a raised section of footpath and new edging (completed in Sept/Oct 2019)

Date	Where?	Improvement
		Other:
5 July	Sandhurst FP15 and Sandhurst FP13 (Calvert Walk)	Vegetation clearance
	Winkfield FP19	Repair to footbridge sleepers
Sept – Dec 2019	Crowthorne RB12	TRO enforced on this section of the Devil's Highway. New verge markers and signed installed. Surface improvements carried out to ensure passage of intended users. Big improvements to the condition of the RB, by restricting use by heavy motorised vehicles.
	Sandhurst FP9a	 Rail Crossing Diversion Order: The Section 119A Order to close the level crossing at Ambarrow Hill and divert Sandhurst FP9A was made on 14th November and was confirmed as an unopposed order on 20th December 2019. The Order came into force on 27th January 2020. The National Trust has constructed a length of new path, funded by Network Rail. Diverted FP at the point where a new crossing point has been provided over the railway via an existing footbridge. Access via footbridge much improved with new gates, FP surfacing and directional signage. See Appendix C for further detail.
1 Oct 2019	Binfield FP11 (Murrell Hill Lane)	Hedge cut to maintain width of FP.
21 Nov 2019	Binfield FP9	Hedge flail and scrub clearance.
8 and 18 Dec 2019	Sandhurst FPs various	Clearing leaf litter (the first date was by Community Payback)
25 Jan 2020	Warfield FP6 Sandhurst FP24	Installed No Cycling signs Boardwalk repairs at Wildmoor Heath
2020/21		'Squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles removed:
Aug 2020	Warfield FP7	3 metal gates replacing squeeze stiles
Feb 2021	Winkfield FP5	New metal pedestrian gate
Feb 2021	Binfield FP13	New metal pedestrian gate replacing squeeze stile
		Surface:

Date	Where?	Improvement
Apr 2020	Warfield BW 19 (Penfurzen Lane)	20 ton of road planings to improve surface
Nov 2020	Binfield FP10 + PP	Heavy vegetation/hedge cutting clearance and some surfacing around wet areas
		Other:
		New river park alongside The Cut East to West Greenway
Jan 2021	Warfield BW 18 (Goughs Barn Lane) and Binfield BR 19 (Hazelwood Lane North)	Drainage repairs to alleviate flooding to neighbouring bridleway.
2021/22		'Squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles removed:
Nov 2021	Binfield FP11	Metal pedestrian gate replacing kissing gate and removal of squeeze gate
Apr/May 2021	Crowthorne FP8	1 new metal gate, 1 new metal kissing gate replacing step over stiles + removal of additional step-over stile. See Appendix C for further detail.
		Surface:
Apr 2021	Warfield BR25 (Hawthorndale Lane)	Road planings to improve wet/muddy section of lane
Dec '21	Bracknell FP6A/26	Surfacing improvements to Longshot Lane
		Other:
25 th June 2021	Warfield FP24	New bridge/culvert crossing
Oct 2021	Sandhurst FP24	Wildmoor boardwalk replacement. See Appendix C for further detail.
2022/23		'Squeeze' and 'step-over' stiles removed:
Spring 2022	Binfield FP11	Squeeze stile removed at Murrell Hill end. Pedestrian gate provided. Historic issue with fly-grazing ponies.
		Surface:
September 2022	Sandhurst FP15	S106 funding used to improve the surface of the urban footpath, which is used as a cut through between College Road and Branksome Hill Road.
Summer/Autumn 2022	Warfield FP7	New boardwalk along eastern end of FP to improve year-round accessibility. Also part of Bracknell Forest Ramblers Route. Project funded by Ramblers and assisted by rangers and volunteers.
Dec 2021	Longshot Lane (Bracknell Footpath 6A)	Bracknell BID (Business Improvement District) funded a surface improvement to the footpath and added their own signage to the routes.
August 2022	Sandhurst FP14	200 metres of compacted stone surfacing used to improve FP surface.

Date	Where?	Improvement
Spring 2022	Warfield BW 18 (Goughs Barn Lane)	40 ton of stone to residents of Goughs Barn Lane. Resurface private byway themselves.
		Other:
Spring 2022	Sandhurst FP26	Signage had been installed on existing lampposts at both ends of the new FP in Sandhurst.
Feb/March 2020	Warfield BR25 (Hedge Lane)	Drainage improvements carried out to reduce flooding along the western end of the bridleway.
Summer/Autumn 2021	Warfield BR25 (Hawthorndale Lane)	Excavation and repair work at Hawthorndale Lane, which was undertaken to reduce flooding.
Autumn 2021	Sandhurst FP26	New footpath
Autumn 2021	Sandhurst FP27	New footpath link - LCAF had supported the idea of turning the remaining part of the Three Castles Path at Ambarrow Court to a public footpath.
Autumn 2022	Binfield FP9	Tractor hedge flailing and scrub clearance

Appendix C – Proposed PRoW improvements and access routes

Figure 16 LCAF proposals for new / modified PRoWs and access routes

No.	PRoW proposal	Comments	Proposer	Delivery Potential	Status / Actions
1	Add diverted link through Ambarrow Hill/Court from rerouted railway crossing to definitive map.	Closure of Railway crossing on Sandhurst FP9 with diversion over railway bridge. New path to re-join original route should be a PRoW	Graham Pockett		Completed Sandhurst FP9A
2	Add path through Ambarrow from Sandhurst FP9A to opposite FP10 on A321 to definitive map	Continuous PRoW route for 3 Castles Path.	LCAF		Completed Sandhurst FP27
3	Link from the end of Lower Church Road to Sandhurst FP19 at Horseshoe Lake. Add to definitive map	Improved access to Horseshoe Lake from Sandhurst without having to walk along narrow Mill Lane. On BFC land.	Richard Mosses	High Potential	Path in place. Awaiting completion of works at Horseshoe Lake
4	Add Horseshoe Lake Bridleway to definitive map.	Bridleway has been in place for some years but is not on the definitive map On BFC Land	Graham Pockett	High Potential	To be progressed at same time as 3
5	Access to Frost Folly SANG2 from Church Lane, Warfield (Opposite Warfield FP12)	Alternative pedestrian access nearer to housing developments (Preferred alternative to proposal for entrance at Osbourne Lane junction)	Hugh Fitzwilliams	High Potential	Awaiting opening of SANG and transfer to BFC. Expecting SANG to open soon.
6	From Warfield 3 from where it turns south to Church Lane to Malt Hill.	There is a concrete track along this route and access to Malt Hill is round the gate and is used by dog walkers. There is a planning application for this route to be part of a SANG – discussions on going about potential transfer to BFC.	Richard Mosses	Medium Potential	Awaiting SANG planning approval.
7	Footpath from Cabbage Hill SANG to Hazelwood Lane ((Binfield BR24) crossing land owned by Thames Water.	Would make a direct walking route from north Bracknell to the network of PRoWs north of Bracknell.	Colin Bird	Medium Potential	Discussions with Thames Water have been ongoing since 2018.

No.	PRoW proposal	Comments	Proposer	Delivery Potential	Status / Actions
8	Add existing Mosses path adjacent to the football club in Binfield as a PRoW on the definitive map.	The land is owned by BFC and leased to football club. Need to investigate lease and any issues with football club. Path is alternative route to parallel road.	Richard Mosses	High Potential	Not a high priority for BFC resource as existing path is open.
9	Permissive cycling route on Bracknell FP2 – parallel to Nine Mile Ride	High value cycle link – would need funding for surface improvement.	ROWIP2	Medium Potential	Liaison required with BFC's sustainable transport team.
10	Restoration of original path from old Garth Hill College site to Warfield Rd.	This was part of a pre New Town footpath that may have been extinguished by the Development Corporation	Alvin Finch	Not Possible	Deleted - One part of the land on this route is no longer owned by BFC – recently sold to be part of garden of adjacent property.
11	Cross border connection from RBWM footpath 25 (which runs south from Shurlock Row) to Binfield Bridleway 22 (Spinning Wheel Lane) and another south to Billingbear Lane to connect with Restricted Byway Binfield 21.	Connects isolated parts of PRoW network in north Binfield avoiding the need for walking on busy, twisting roads. Would require new paths on private land.	Richard Mosses	Low Potential	Requires multiple landowner approval.
12	A link between Winkfield FP8 and Winkfield FP10 without having to walk along Braziers Lane.	Avoids the need to walk along busy, narrow Braziers Lane. Could either be improvement of verge or along the field edge (private land) which is just south of where Winkfield FP8 comes out onto Braziers Lane and then it would require a bridge just north of where it could join Winkfield FP10.	Richard Mosses	Low Potential	Previous discussions with Highways didn't identify a verge solution. Need to approach landowner for field path.
13	Missing sections of Blackwater Valley Path in Sandhurst Town	With Blackwater Valley Partnership. All on private land. Only likely to progress if linked to a local planning application.	ROWIP2	Low Potential	Watch for local planning applications that may facilitate.
14	Diversion of Binfield FP11 along to the north of the Amen Corner development into Piglittle Fields.	Avoids footpath running through housing development. Would also require corresponding change to STNH FP 251 (Wokingham) with which it connects.	Richard Mosses	Low Potential	Landowner has dipositive statement on land to avoid paths being designated as PRoWs

No.	PRoW proposal	Comments	Proposer	Delivery Potential	Status / Actions
		Alternative path is available for public use but unlikely to be designated as PRoW.			
15	Bridleway route to link Warfield development area to Hazelwood Lane and Warfield BR26	In liaison with BFC's spatial planning policy team. There is not a horse route west of West End Lane on the Greenway through Woodhurst Park either into Forest Road or Sopwith Rd.	ROWIP2	?	Will there be a demand for a horse route when developments are complete?
16	Northern access to Bucklers Forest SANG	To give official access across Nine Mile Ride for residents of southwest Bracknell estates and create new, longer routes avoiding SPA. Existing pedestrian lights at Golden Retriever junction would give safe crossing of Nine Mile Ride	LCAF – June 2022	High Potential	New - Investigate as part of transfer of SANG management to BFC
17	Beaufort Park – alternative to footpath on historic maps running from northeast to southwest of site	The original line of the historic path is no longer possible as it runs through the cemetery. Beaufort Park is currently the subject of a major planning application which could give options for alternative routes.	Nick Ballard	?	New - Depends on outcome of planning application
18	Perry Bridge Farm to Horseshoe Lake, Sandhust. Reinstatement of footpath on historic maps.	The historic path no longer exists as a path. This land is subject to a planning application appeal. If granted, the land of the proposed path would be part of a new SANG which would give opportunities for the path to be reinstated.	Nick Ballard	?	New - Depends on outcome of planning application appeal.

Last updated July 2022.

Appendix D – Examples of major PRoW and recreation improvements

Rail crossing diversion, FP diversion and new path

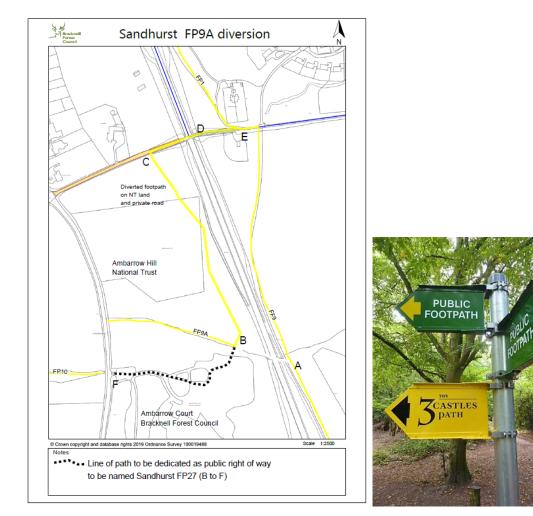
This section provides an overview of the first two examples provided in Figure 5 above i.e. Sandhurst FP9a and FP27.

LCAF had supported the idea of turning the remaining part of the Three Castles Path at Ambarrow Court into a public footpath.

Bracknell Forest Council worked with Network Rail and The National Trust to permanently divert a footpath through Ambarrow Hill. The diversion was required following the closure of a railway crossing (Grid Ref SU 82681 62707) for safety reasons. The diverted footpath now follows the footbridge around 300 metres further north.

As part of these improvements a new footpath (Sandhurst Footpath 27) has also been established at neighbouring Ambarrow Court. This now better links the nearby footpaths, and follows the route of the Three Castles Path, which is a long distance route that runs for 60 miles (96.5 kilometres) between Windsor and Winchester.

Figures 17 Map and new signs



Removing obstacles to PRoW

LCAF members advised Bracknell Forest Council how they could improve access along Crowthorne Footpath 8, at Broadmoor Farm. This would involve removing the step-over stiles and providing rights of way users with more accessible options.

The council discussed the matter with the landowner responsible for the Broadmoor estate. The agreed option was to replace the tall metal stiles with bridle and kissing gates.

The before and after pictures below, show the improvements. These include a new and more accesible pedestrian gate, a kissing gate, and a gap, where no replacement furniture was required.

Identifying and removing hindrances to using Rights of Way is a policy of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP2).

Figure 18 Step over stile (left) replaced with pedestrian gate (right).



Figure 19 Step over stile (left) removed and replaced with kissing gate (right).



Figure 20 Gate and step over stile (left) removed (right).



Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) improvements

This section provides examples of the many improvements that have been delivered to Bracknell Forest SANGs the borough over the past five years. There would be too many to reference all of them as part of this review.

News signs and visitor interpretation along The Cut Countryside Corridor, a circular route linking sites Larks Hill, Piggy Wood, Garth Meadows/Pond and The Three Copses.

Figure 21 New waymarker, interpretation panel and finger post



There's also a new route that's been created that runs through the Bullbrook Countryside Corridor. This forms a large circular route linking sites Edmund's Green, Whitegrove Copse, Harvest Hill, The Chestnuts, Longhill Park, Milman Close, Clintons Hill, Bullbrook Drive and Beswick Gardens Copse.

Figure 22 Copy of new interpretation design



Figure 23 New interpretation board, finger post and site entrance sign along the Bullbrook Countryside Corridor.



Further information about SANGs can be found on Bracknell Forest Council's website.

Footpath surface improvements

Wildmoor Heath boardwalk, Sandhurst FP24

Bracknell Forest Council's worked with the landowners to improve the boardwalk at Wildmoor Heath. The boardwalk, which is also a public footpath (Sandhurst FP24), is popularly used by residents to access Wildmoor Heath.

Deteriorating sections of the wooden boardwalk, were replaced with new sections made from recycled plastic timber. These will be more durable in the wet conditions. Certain sections were also turned into a raised gravel path.

The site has high ecological value, which is why it's so important to manage access via the provision of the FP/boardwalk. The improvements will also enable residents to use the footpath during the autumn and winter when the ground conditions are wetter.

Figure 24 Before and after pictures of footpath/boardwalk improvements



Warfield Footpath 7

Funding from the Ramblers has been used to install a boardwalk along the eastern section of Warfield FP7. The section formed part of the Bracknell Forest Ramblers' Route and would increasingly be used to link the new Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) sites of Windmill Farm and the several Frost Folly sites. Approval had been received from the landowner to put in extra drainage and install an extra boardwalk section. The work was completed in summer / autumn 2022, by the Bracknell Conservation Volunteers and the rangers. The new boardwalk will make it more accessible throughout the year.

Figure 25 Before and after pictures of improvements. The new section of boardwalk, which is pictured to the right, will receive grip strips to improve its usability.



References and photo credits

South East Plan www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planningpolicy/development-plan/south-east-plan

Bracknell Forest Council Plan www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-11/council-plan-2019-to-2023.pdf

Policy paper on National Planning Policy Framework www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2

Bracknell Forest - Comprehensive Local Plan Examination: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planningpolicy/emerging-bracknell-forest-local-plan/examination

Evidence based, including the green infrastructure review and the Play Open Space and Sports Study: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-

www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/plannin policy/emerging-bracknell-forest-local-plan/evidence-base

Local Transport Plan 3 2011-2026 (LTP3) www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-08/ltp3-core-strategy-andimplementation-plan.pdf

Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-17 (BAP) <u>www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/wildlife-and-biodiversity/biodiversity-action-plan</u>

Blackwater Valley Countryside partnership http://www.bvct.org.uk/

Neighbourhood Plans www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planningpolicy/neighbourhood-planning

Guidance on public rights of way: landowner responsibilities www.gov.uk/guidance/public-rights-of-way-landowner-responsibilities

Statutory guidance on The Countryside Code www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code

The Trail Riders Fellowship Sharing the trail www.trf.org.uk/sharing-trail/

Office for National Statistics How has lockdown changed our relationship with nature? <u>www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/articles/howhaslockdownchangedourrelati</u> <u>onshipwithnature/2021-04-</u> <u>26#:~:text=Around%209%20in%2010%20people,since%20the%20coronavirus%20restrictio</u> <u>ns%20began</u>. Bracknell Forest Local Countryside Access Forum (LCAF) www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/local-countryside-access-forum Bracknell Conservation Volunteers www.bracknellcv.org.uk/

The South East Berkshire Ramblers https://sebr.org.uk/

Definitive Map and Statement Rights of Way Improvement Plan <u>https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/public-rights-way</u>

Bracknell Forest Council parks events https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/events

Public Health Portal walking page https://health.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/get-active/walking/

Thames Basin Heaths Partnership www.tbhpartnership.org.uk/

Highways Act 1980 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1980/66/section/36#section-36-6

Bracknell Business Improvement District https://bracknellbid.co.uk/

Dog Walking page of Bracknell Forest Council's website www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/outdoor-activities/dog-walking

Cycling in Bracknell Forest <u>https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/travel-and-public-transport/cycling-bracknell-forest</u>

Photo credits:

Figures 2 and 3: Stewart Turkington Figure 5: David Warren Figures 7 and 9: Getty images Figure 8: NHS infographic Figures 17-25: Rob Solomon

Abbreviations:

LCAF LAF SANGs SPA RoWIP2 PRoW NPPF LTP3 BAP POSS Study BFC BVPI TRF BHS TRO TTRO BOAT RB BR FP ONS BID BCV/c	Local Countryside Access Forum Local Access Forum Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces Special Protection Area The Second Rights of Way Improvement Plan Public Rights of Way National Planning Policy Framework The third Local Transport Plan Biodiversity Action Plan Play, Open Spaces and Sports Study Bracknell Forest Council Best Value Performance Indicator The Trail Riders Fellowship British Horse Society Traffic Regulation Order Temporary Traffic Regulation Order Byway Open to All Traffic Restricted Byway Bridleway Footpath Office for National Statistics Business Improvement District Bracknell Conservation Volunteers
BCVs	Bracknell Conservation Volunteers