

Bracknell Forest Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2017 – 2026 DRAFT structure proposal

Summary & vision statement

1 Introduction

2 RoWIP process and consultations

3 Policy contexts

4 The Bracknell Forest rights of way network

- 4.1 The current network
- 4.2 Permissive paths and other paths
- 4.3 Access land
- 4.4 Definitive map and statement
- 4.5 Network maintenance
- 4.6 RoWIP audit
- 4.7 BVPI 178
- 4.8 Landownership
- 4.9 Responsible use of the countryside
- 4.10 Cross boundary co-operation and opportunities
- 4.11 Designated and promoted routes
- 4.12 Information and marketing
- 4.13 Conclusions

5 Rights of way users: use and demand

- 5.1 Rights of way users and their needs
- 5.2 Public consultation and feedback
- 5.3 Gaps in the network and suggestions for the network
- 5.4 The Local Countryside Access Forum
- 5.5 Conclusions

6 Evaluation and Assessment

- 6.1 Walkers
- 6.2 Cyclists
- 6.3 Horse riders
- 6.4 Carriage drivers
- 6.5 Motorised vehicle users
- 6.6 Inclusive access and design
 - Routes not suitable for disabled users
- 6.7 Non-users
- 6.8 Inconsistencies in rights of way
 - Dead ends, mapping errors, inappropriate use
- 6.9 Key issues from previous RoWIP mid-term review
- 6.8 Conclusions

7 RoWIP Policies

8 Improvement Plan

Factors to consider including:

access to the countryside or a particular viewpoint, feature or attraction
routes to support tourism, regeneration or community projects
alternative routes for cyclists, horse riders and walkers to avoid using busy roads
circular routes for leisure use, eg walking, running, cycling
paths and routes by water [or the sea] which need repairing
crossings over roads, railways, rivers and canals
existing rights of way, eg those that end in cul-de-sacs or that have different rights
along their length
routes for local journeys, eg walking to work, the shops, railway stations
routes to help people travel through or around heavily developed areas

source of above: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-authority-rights-of-way-improvement-plans>

Identification of historic paths and 2026 deadline
Inclusive access
Impacts of new residential development

9 Action Plan (or statement of action)

For each item in the statement of action include the:

- proposed action
- estimated costs
- organisations that will be involved
- time it will take to complete

10 Monitoring and reporting

11 References

Appendices

- A Consultee List
- B Rights of Way Maps
- C Current network statistics
- D RoWIP survey form
- E Survey results
- F PROW survey audit form

Draft RoWIP to be publicised in two local papers, and 12 weeks allowed for comments.

Consultations:

Residents / visitors

Blackwater Valley Partnership

Bracknell Forest LCAF

Landowners and land managers

The Crown Estate

The Forestry Commission

The National Trust

BBOWT

Wellington College

Farmers

Equine businesses – studs, polo clubs, etc.

Bracknell Forest Society

Bracknell Forest Nature Partnership

Natural England

Neighbouring local highway authorities

Town and Parish Councils (Parish, Parks and Public realm Forum)

User groups Ramblers (local group)

British Horse Society (local group)

Discuss inclusion of organisations below (not obligatory for RoWIP – these are prescribed organisations for modification orders:

TRF - Trail Riders Fellowship (local group?)

CTC – Cyclists Touring Club (Cycling UK)

British Driving Society – carriage driving

Byways and Bridleways Trust

Open Spaces Society

Currently relevant policy / plan / action items

Blackwater Valley Partnership Strategy to include completion of the missing sections of the Blackwater Valley Path, notably through Sandhurst. Planning policy should be retained in Bracknell Forest as well, to reinforce this long term ambition.

Bracknell Forest producing new Comprehensive Local Plan

New Public Open Space & Sports study (POSS Study)

The existing Bracknell Forest ROWIP can be viewed at:

<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/public-rights-of-way-improvement-plan-2006.pdf>