

Rutland County Council

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RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

25 JANUARY 2023

MILES WITHOUT BARRIERS

JOHN LAW

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT








1.1 To update the LAF on the progress and next steps.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Following the meeting of LAF members on the 28TH September 2022, the project continues to move forward, in line with the report provided at that meeting.

3 PROGRESS

3.1. All PROWs have been categorised under the headings below:

KEY	Category Description	Category
	No Stiles, Bridges or Fords	A
	Bridges but No Stiles	B
	Bridges and 1 Stile Or Just 1 Stile	C
	Bridges and 2 Stiles or Just 2 Stiles	D
	3 Stiles and above and Fords	E
	Steps	F
	PROW Ending or starting with a private road	G

3.2 The categories illustrate the probable difficulty in levels of accessibility. Clearly the category A PROWs should be the most accessible with no barriers, apart from the

issues with gates. The only way to ensure all category A PROWs meet the standard expected is by undertaking a survey.

3.3 The category A PROWs have been mapped.

3.4 Currently category A links with category B and C are being identified.

4 NEXT STEPS

4.1 Complete the category A links with category B and C have them mapped and available for viewing at the next meeting.

4.2 Prioritise routes that require improvement to remove barriers with very little or no cost.

4.3 Detail how surveys can be undertaken.

4.4 Examine how we can make the public aware of the miles without barriers.

4.5 Discuss with Natural England the possibility of them funding the project, as they have funded Countryside For All projects in the past.

4.6 If no funding is available from Natural England, draft a Lottery bid to enable us to fund the project.